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General Summary.

We again sit down to prepare our Paper for the Press, without knowing what the Shipping Report may announce, its arrival being delayed as for the two preceding days by the heavy rains that have fallen. We reserve a corner for a Postscript, however, should any thing of importance demand it.

The excellent Publication, entitled *THE INQUIRER*, from the First Number of which we recently republished an Article on Ireland, has furnished us also with one on the Slave Trade, which contains a clear and comprehensive view of the progressive history of the Acts passed for its Abolition, and which will repay the attentive perusal of the Reader.

We have given some space in our Asiatic Department to the consideration of a subject to which we have not for some time adverted, the continued attempts of the Indian *JOHN BULL* to wound the feelings of every one connected with us by the ties of friendship, kindred, or affection, and the systematic perseverance with which it endeavours to undermine the pecuniary credit of the *JOURNAL*, by representing its property as insecure and unproductive. The various changes in the Editorship of that Paper, whatever ameliorations or fallings-off it may have produced, have affected no change in this particular; and the spirit of rancorous hatred to the *JOURNAL*, and all connected with it, is to be as strongly seen in the *JOHN BULL* of the present Editor as at any former period.

It is but little excuse to say that the Editor is no party to this: that his charge is but a temporary one: that his duties elsewhere are too numerous or too important. He consents to receive the wages of the Editor of a Paper in which the sanctity of private relationships and family connections are suffered to be invaded, without a word of disavowal or explanation:—of a Paper in which the pecuniary credit of his neighbour's property and business is attempted to be lowered in value, not by the honest mode of direct analysis and plain statement, but by insinuations against its security and productiveness. It is this *Paper*, therefore, of which we speak, without caring who may be its actual Superintendent, whether it be written by Public Functionaries, compiled by Commissioners and Heads of Boards, or merely measured by out by the yard by Printer's Devils. It is that Paper which renews its aggressions and has repeated them, apparently emboldened by our forbearance, of which we speak; and in doing so we merely act, as we have always done to wards it, on the defensive.

We say thus much in this place as to the spirit in which we have pursued our remarks, and refer the Reader to the Asiatic Sheets for the rest.

French Papers.—As a Cotemporary has attempted to discredit the French accounts of the disturbed state of Spain, by asserting that, although "very late accounts must have reached England, yet he sees no alarm expressed or even discussion upon them in the last English Journals,"—we submit a translation of a paragraph given in a late French Paper under the head of "*ENGLAND*," and evidently taken from some London Journal:—

"The last accounts from Spain extending to the 31st of May, are of a nature so afflicting that they must naturally fill every reflecting mind with an apprehension, that the epoch is inevitably at hand of some great and awful catastrophe. In the

various districts bodies of partisans hostile to the new order of things, boldly present themselves against the revolutionists. We hear sometimes of the defeat of these partisans, but we do not hear that tranquillity reign in any provinces of Spain. The ruling faction obtains indeed some triumphs; but its power is not consolidated the more; on the contrary its adversaries multiply on all sides, and when they manage to drive them from one position they appear again, more numerous and audacious then ever, in another. It is easy to foresee what will be the issue of this state of things: every step which is made is a retrograde from political strength and social order. Every week, every day, gives birth to events which snap in twain the last bonds of society, and accelerate the reign of terror and of universal anarchy. No one party is sufficiently strong and powerful to assume the ascendancy over the other, and as it is unhappily probable that revolt and rebellion will obtain a fatal advantage, we must expect that when the hideous monster, *Anarchy*, shall be raised on the ruins of the Monarchy, it will run a bloody and disastrous career: crowns acquired at the price of blood can only be preserved by the effusion of blood. Consulting the experience of the past and what has happened under our own eyes, we can see no favourable chance for saving that unhappy country from that grand and terrible calamity. The deliberations of the Cortes are a mere vacillation between hope and fear. Fully disposed to consummate the work of the Revolution in legitimate views, they are afraid to venture on measures which admit of no retreat, and may have consequences the most dangerous and incalculable. Thus they are placed on the brink of a precipice. In attempting to pass it they are afraid lest it should swallow them up, and their situation is so critical and so deplorable that the empire of circumstances presses upon them on every side, and they can neither remain in inaction, nor proceed without incurring equal danger.

Hindoo Manuscripts.—H. T. Colebrooke formerly President of the Asiatic Society at Calcutta, has made a present to the Library of the East India company, of a collection of works in the Sanscrit language, to the number of more than six hundred volumes, which contain fragments of the Veds (*Weddahs*) and their commentaries, philosophical treatises of the Brahmins work on Astronomy, Poems, &c.

Sea Serpent.—Altho' the existence of this animal has been called in question, the following description given by Mr. Krinkoff, a Russian Traveller, leaves almost no doubt on this point. Going to Behring's Island to hunt, he observed in the water a red Serpent of immeasurable length, the head of which resembled that of the sea lion. Two enormous eyes disproportioned with the rest of the body, gave it a horrible aspect. "Very fortunately for us, (say Mr. Krinkoff) we were only a short distance from the shore at the time we perceived it. He raised his gigantic head above the water, as if to look out for his prey, and then instantly disappeared, but we saw him very soon re-appear much nearer us. We then began to row with all our might and gained the shore without again having seen the monster. At the second appearance many sea lions which were stretched upon the coast plunged into the water, and others hid themselves behind the rocks." The sea serpent seen in the seas of North America appears to be of the same species as this. It may be conjectured that these formidable animals only dwell in the northern seas in the neighbourhood of the Poles.—*Hurhara*.

Acts on the Slave Trade.

(From the Inquirer.)

At the commencement of the present session of parliament, Dr. Lushington announced his intention of bringing in a bill for the consolidation of the Acts relating to the abolition of the slave trade. We are disposed to attach considerable importance to this measure: and though fully sympathizing in the distaste which we suppose our readers in general feel for mere legal discussions, we must request their indulgence if, on so momentous a subject as this, we should engage them in an investigation of a series of Acts of Parliament. We shall not be often found in so sterile and uninteresting a region.

From generation to generation, Englishmen have been complaining of the obscurity of the laws by which they are governed: many have even supposed, that the legislature, willing to promote the selfish ends of those who live by expounding the law, has deliberately set itself to bewilder common understandings, and that the mists in which our statutes are involved, have been wilfully raised by a succession of crafty and designing spirits. The truth, however, we take to be, that in this, as in other cases, "we buy our blessings at a price." In a free country, laws will necessarily be more obscure than in other states: the jealousy of trusting too much to judicial interpretation; the necessity of defining crimes and their punishments with precision; and the severity with which advocates are permitted to criticize the law in favour of their clients, are among the permanent sources of that cautious and redundant phraseology in which our Statute-book abounds. Other causes may be found in the peculiar constitution of the House of Commons, and in the magnitude of the commercial and financial affairs of the empire. But although this inconvenience is, we think, intimately connected with that which constitutes the peculiar glory of our country, far be it from us either to deny the magnitude of the evil, or to withhold our thanks from those who endeavour to mitigate it. Among the means of cure, the consolidation of all the laws relating to the same general topic is one of the most easy to effect; and as no Acts of Parliament are more important than those which relate to the abolition of the slave trade, so none more deserve or more urgently require a careful revision;—it may, however, be permitted us to doubt whether the time is yet ripe for the accomplishment of this task. The consolidated Slave Trade Abolition Act should, possible, be the permanent immutable law of Great Britain; it should stand as a model for the imitation of other legislatures; and should not contain any thing at enmity with those great principles of justice and benevolence on which the whole fabric is built. Now is such the present state of the abolition laws? or are there not rather some important corrections, which should precede any attempt at consolidation? These questions, we apprehend, will best be answered by the compendious summary which we shall attempt to give of this title of the law of England. The very learned and amiable person who has taken on himself the duty of superintending the proposed revision of these Acts of Parliament, will, we trust, regard us as zealous though humble labourers in the same field; happy if we should be able in any measure to assist him in the pursuit of his benevolent and patriotic object.

We are the rather disposed to defer the more interesting views of the present state of the Slave Trade, in favour of this inquiry, because many of our contemporaries have placed within reach of the public, in a convenient and most impressive manner, the substance of all the recent information from the coast of Africa. We refer, especially, to Mr. Clarkson's pamphlet entitled "The Cries of Africa,"—to a tract circulated by the society of Friends, entitled "Information concerning the Slave Trade,"—to a Report made by a committee of the directors of the African Institution, and published as a supplement to their Annual Report for 1821, —and especially to an admirable paper to be found in the last number of the British Review, and lately reprinted in the form of a separate tract. These few pamphlets will convey, to all who are anxious to understand the merits of this question, a body of information of the most deep and painful interest; stated with a perspicuity, force, and feeling, which would be necessarily impaired by any abridgement. Leaving then for the present, to these powerful writers the task of rousing the consciences and stimulating the zeal of our fellow-countrymen, we turn aside to the humbler but not, we trust, unserviceable office which we have proposed to ourselves.

At an early period of the twelve years war, which commenced in the year 1803, the whole of the French and Dutch colonies were surrendered to Great Britain. It being a principle of the Law of England, that the king has a legislative authority over a conquered country, the difficulties which impeded the abolition of the Slave Trade by parliament, did not exist with regard to these conquests.

Their restoration, on the return of peace, was an event which in those times it would have been absurd to doubt; and the policy was

obvious, of preventing the use of British capital in extending the culture of foreign colonies, destined, as it then appeared, to become at no remote period the rivals of our own. The friends of the abolition had therefore the less difficulty in obtaining a law for preventing the introduction of new labourers into these settlements. Accordingly, on the 15th of August 1805, an order in council was issued, prohibiting the importation of slaves into any of the colonies, either on the continent of America or in the West Indies, which had "surrendered to his Majesty's arms during the present war."

Although the king in council had power thus to prohibit the slave trade in any conquered colony, yet his authority was insufficient to establish all those regulations which were essential to ensure obedience to the prohibition. At an early period, therefore, of the following session, the subject was brought before parliament, when the act usually known as the Foreign Slave Trade Act (46 Geo. III. c. 52.) was passed in order to give effect to the preceding order in council. The act, however, was not confined to this object; and the cause of the abolition was now able to gain a second triumph, of more extensive influence and of greater importance than the first. Not content with supplying her own colonies, England had long engrossed much of the carrying trade in slaves, between the coast of Africa and countries not subject to her own dominion. The waste of capital and of human life in this commerce had so frequently been demonstrated, as to force conviction even on the most prejudiced; and it was at length admitted, that to engage in the African trade, without any view to the culture of our own colonies, was an act of gratuitous and unprofitable wickedness. The foreign slave trade act, therefore, supported as it was by the influence of Government, encountered no formidable opposition in parliament. It passed on the 23d May 1806.

By this law, the actual importation of slaves into the conquered countries, and the shipment of slaves in British shipping, or on British account, with an intent so to import them, were prohibited. Thus far it only gave effect to the order in council; but it also forbade all persons amenable to the law of Great Britain, to carry slaves from any place whatever to any place under the dominion of any foreign power; and thus prevented, not only the great carrying trade between Africa and the colonies of foreign states, but also the supply of such colonies by means of any redundant population of our own.

Hitherto the direct trade between the British colonies and the coast of Africa was subject to no restraint; but the hour was approaching when the parliament of Great Britain was to make to Africa the great though tardy atonement for the injustice and cruelties of nearly two centuries. On the 25th of March 1807, a day to be held in everlasting remembrance, was passed the "Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade," the precursor and in some sense the model of those laws which all the maritime states of Europe have since adopted;—the most solemn acknowledgment to be found in the history of legislation, of the submission due by nations to the great laws of justice and humanity;—the statute which, whether we regard its immediate or its indirect consequences, may be justly considered as the most important which was ever deliberately enacted by any human legislature.

By this Act, the African Slave Trade was "utterly abolished, prohibited, and declared unlawful." No subject of his majesty, nor any person resident in the King's dominions, was thenceforward to remove, or assist in removing, to any place whatever, as slaves, or for the purpose of being dealt with as slaves, any inhabitant of Africa, or of any foreign territory in the West Indies or America. Neither was any such person to be received or confined on board of any ship for the purpose of being so dealt with. Such was the general prohibition of this statute. The provisions framed for ensuring obedience to it were unavoidably complicated,—in some particulars defective,—and perhaps in some few subordinate points as time and experience have shown injudicious. Yet no candid man will we think, deny that the act, even in its minor details, was worthy the great occasion on which it was introduced, and that it exhibits an extent of caution, of practical knowledge, and of foresight, of which it would be difficult to find any other example. Our space will not afford a lengthened explanation of these subsidiary provisions: we must be content to touch very briefly on some of the more important.

As the war with France was at its height in the year 1807, and as maritime captures made in the prosecution of that war would unavoidably introduce into the colonies natives of Africa found in the slave ships of hostile nations, it was necessary to provide for the treatment and disposal of them: the same difficulty arose respecting slaves who might be imported in violation of the law, a practice reasonable to be feared, since the assembly of Jamaica had deliberately asserted, that the whole united navy of Great Britain would not be able to prevent it. It was therefore provided, that all such Africans should be prosecuted either as prize of war, or as forfeitures to the crown, and should be condemned to the use of the king, not so as to deprive them of liberty, but for the purpose of barring any claim which any other person might assert. They were

then either to be enlisted into the king's service as soldiers or seamen, or were to be bound apprentices for any term not exceeding fourteen years.

It required but an ordinary measure of sagacity to foresee the objections to which this plan was open, and the result has justified the fears which we have reason to think the authors of it originally entertained. It could scarcely be expected, that the distinction between an apprentice and a slave would be much regarded in colonies which had shown such an inveterate aversion to the whole system of which this formed a part. Yet with all the assistance of experience, it would probably perplex the best informed friend of the abolition even now to suggest any scheme to which the objections would not have been yet more formidable. The means which have been lately adopted for investigating the abuses of the master's power over his apprentices, we may hereafter explain.

A second great object for which provision was to be made, was the encouragement of seizures. The ordinary inducement of confiscating the captured property, for the benefit of those by whom it was seized, being inapplicable to this case, parliament, with that liberality which is not merely consistent with an enlarged economy, but even essential to it, provided a scale of very considerable bounties to be paid to the captors or seizing officers, and to the governors of colonies in which any seizure and condemnation might take place.

A third difficulty in framing the Abolition Act, was to make due provision for the execution of it in colonies where the law itself was in the highest degree unpopular. For this purpose, it was declared that all forfeitures might be prosecuted and recovered in the colonies in the same manner as offences against the laws of trade were proceeded against under the statute 4 Geo. 3. c. 15. The statute thus referred to gave the informer or prosecutor the right of proceeding, at his election, either in the courts of Admiralty, or in the courts of record in the colonies, and therefore relieved him from the risk to which the prejudices of a colonial jury might expose him.

The penal sanctions provided by the two preceding statutes, consisted in the forfeiture of property and directed pecuniary penalties. So long as England continued the great emporium of the slave trade, and even while the memory of her participation in it was recent, any man who had proposed to restrain this offence by ignominious punishment would have been regarded as mad. Such is the effect of self-love in rendering us unable to perceive the enormity of any crimes which we habitually commit. But, in the short space of four years after the abandonment of the trade, juster views of its real character were generally diffused, and men were now prepared to reprobate as infamous a system which had for many preceding years been represented as a main pillar of the commercial greatness of the country. The Slave Trade Felony Act was passed almost by acclamation.

This statute (51 Geo. III. c. 23.) declared all persons guilty of felony who should be convicted of any of the following offences; viz. the removing from any place whatsoever of slaves, or of persons intended to be dealt with as slaves, into any place whatever; the embarkation or confinement on shipboard of any persons, with a view to their being removed or dealt with as slaves; the employment or the letting or taking to freight of ships to be used in carrying or importing slaves; the fitting out, or embarking on board any such ship in the capacity of captain, mate, supercargo, or surgeon, with knowledge that the ship was to be employed on the carriage or importation of slaves.

The following offences were by the same act declared misdemeanors: navigating or embarking on board a ship, used or intended to be used in the carriage of slaves, in the capacity of a petty officer, a servant or seaman, and the underwriting or effecting insurances on ships or goods, or on the freight of any ship so employed. In each of these cases it was essential to the crime, that the party accused should have known the purpose of the voyage.

It was too obvious to escape the most cursory attention, that the execution of this act would be attended with great difficulties in the colonies where the offence would probably be committed. It was therefore provided, that all offences should be inquired of either according to the ordinary course of law, and the provisions of the "Act of Pirates" passed in the 28th year of Henry VIII, or according to the provisions of an act of the 33d of the same reign, or according to those of a statute passed in the 11th and 12th years of King William the Third.

As this enactment has given rise to much confusion in the administration of the law, and as the subject itself is somewhat intricate, it will not be inconvenient to give a short explanation of the statutes by which the trial of offences against the abolition acts is regulated.

In ancient times all crimes committed on the high seas, or in havens or estuaries of the sea, were considered as falling exclusively under the jurisdiction of the Lord Admiral. Offenders were prosecuted before the commissioners of this great officer of state, who proceeded according to the rules of the civil law. It was a settled maxim of this jurisprudence

that no man could be capitally punished, except upon a *plena probatio*; i. e. either the confession of the accused party, or the concurrent testimony of two eye-witnesses of the crime. But as it was frequently difficult to obtain proof of this nature, an act was passed in the year 1536, (28 H. VIII. c. 15.) by which it was provided, that crimes committed within the jurisdiction of the Lord Admiral might be tried according to the common course of the law of England, which admits of indirect or circumstantial evidence. As, however, the common law required that the criminals should be tried in the shire in which their offences had been committed; and as crimes committed within the admiral's jurisdiction could not be referred to any particular county, the statute further declared that the trial might be held in such place within the realm of England as the king might appoint. A commission ascertaining this place, was to issue under the great seal directed by the admiral or his deputy and three or four such other substantial persons as the lord chancellor of England for the time being should name, requiring them to hear and determine the alleged offences.

Five years after this statute had been passed, another act was made (33 H. VIII. c. 23.) when enabled the king to issue commissions for the speedy trial of offenders who might have been examined before his council, or any three of them, and whom the council "should think to be vehemently suspected" of any treason, misprision of treason, or murder. These offenders, whether their crimes were committed within or without the king's dominions, were to be tried in such place as should be limited by the commission, the opposite rule of the common law of England being in this instance also subverted. The difficulty of procuring indictments of state offenders, appears to have been the real inducement to this act.

For more than one hundred and fifty years from the date of this enactment, all crimes committed by English subjects on the high seas were tried under the one or the other of these acts; but in the reign of William III. with the extended navigation of England, a race of buccaniers and pirates had grown up, whose offences were committed upon the seas in very remote parts of the world. These criminals, according to the then state of the law, could be tried only by being brought to England; for the statutes of Henry VIII. had either abrogated the authority of the Lord Admiral, or caused it to fall into total disuse. The consequence was, that the pirates who infested the shores of South America and of India usually escaped punishment. The remedy for the mischief was provided by an act passed in the year 1700 (11 and 12 William III. c. 7.). This statute declared, that all piracies, felonies, and robberies, committed within the jurisdiction of the admiral, might be tried at any place either at sea or on land in any of the colonies, which should be appointed by a commission to be issued for that purpose under the great seal of England, or under the seal of the Admiralty. The commissioners were to be seven in number, and their proceedings were to be regulated by the civil law. As at this period the colonists derived material advantages from their intercourse with the buccaniers, and were not likely to administer the law with much rigour against them, the act declared, that either the commissioners under the statute of Henry VIII. (proceeding in England and according to the laws of the realm), or the commissioners under that act (proceeding as we have seen according to the civil law), should have the sole authority of trying the before-mentioned crimes and offences. The criminals in the one case were to be sent into England to be tried there: in the other case they might be proceeded against in the colonies; but in no case could they be tried by the ordinary colonial courts of criminal justice.

We conceive that when the slave trade felony act was passed, it was the intention of parliament to remit the trial of all offenders against it to the one or the other of these jurisdictions; that is, slave traders were to be tried, either by the commissioners in England, under the 28 Henry VIII. c. 15, the indictments being previously presented by a grand jury; or by the commissioners appointed under the 33d Henry VIII. c. 23; on the commitment of the privy council, and without any previous presentment; or, finally, by the commissioners for trial of pirates according to the course of the civil law.

It seems, however, not to have been remembered at the time of framing this act, that in the year 1806 a statute had been passed, (46 George III. c. 54.) which had partially repealed the act of King William. It provided, that offences of whatever kind, committed within the jurisdiction of the admiral, might be tried in the colonies, according to the common course of the laws of England used for offences committed upon the land within the realm of England, and not otherwise. Such trials were to be held by virtue of a commission to be issued under the great seal; and the commissioners were to have the same authorities within the colony, as the commissioners under the statute of Henry VIII. have in England. From the inadvertency committed in framing the slave trade felony act, without reference to the act of 1806, two consequences followed. First, it referred the trial of offenders to commissioners to be appointed under the statute of King William, which itself was virtually repealed so far as respected crimes committed within the jurisdiction of the admiral. Secondly, it did not refer their trial to the commissioners appointed under the act of 1806, whose jurisdiction over persons accus-

ed of slave trading was therefore questionable. To remove the doubt which had arisen respecting the competency of this latter tribunal, an act was passed in the year 1818, (58 George III. c. 98,) which declared, that all offences against the slave trade felony act, which might be committed within the jurisdiction of the admiral, might be tried by virtue of any commission under the act of 1806.

It is not to be denied, that our Statute-book affords a very singular illustration both of the insufficiency and the redundancy of human language. All the diligence which had been used to provide a competent jurisdiction for the punishment of every offence which slave traders could commit in every place, was not yet effectual. It appeared, that there was still one case more important perhaps than any other, over which neither the commissioners acting by virtue of 46 George III. nor any other of the courts already noticed, could exercise any controul:—that case was slave-trading by his majesty's subjects on the land of Africa, or in any of the rivers of that continent. These places not being within the jurisdiction of the admiral, the offenders were not amenable to any of the commissioners specially appointed for the trial of crimes committed within the limits of that jurisdiction. Not being within the local limits of the jurisdiction of the ordinary courts of the King's African settlements, they were not subject to prosecution in those tribunals. The only remedy was to send such criminals to England, to be there tried under a commission issued by virtue of the statute of Henry VIII. The expense and difficulty of these proceedings, and perhaps also the hardship inflicted on the accused party, rendered it necessary to pass another act. Accordingly, by the statute 59 George III. c. 97, it was declared, that such offences might be tried under any commission issued according to the directions of the act of 1806.

The next statute which passed for giving effect to the abolition of the slave trade was the statute 53 George III. c. 112, by which it was declared that actions might be brought, or indictments prosecuted, for the penalties imposed by the acts of the 46th and 47th years of George III. at any time within three years after the commission of the offence by which the penalty was incurred.

In the following year a more important addition was made to the law, by the enactment of the statute 54 George III. c. 59, which declared all ships which might be forfeited under the abolition acts entitled to the privileges of British built ships, in the same way as ships condemned as prize of war; an important encouragement to captors and seizing officers, as it enabled them to introduce condemned vessels into the regular trade of Great Britain.

The next addition to these code of laws arose out of circumstances which strongly illustrate the calamitous nature of this traffic. Certain ships had been seized and brought in for condemnation before the Court of Admiralty in the island of Tortola. They were crowded with Africans; and it became an object of great importance to ascertain what was to be the fate of these vessels and of their human cargoes.

Unfortunately, it was found impossible to decide, upon the original evidence, whether the property was liable to confiscation or not, and the claimants were therefore allowed by the court to adduce further proof of their title. The question then arose, at whose expense the negroes were to be maintained during the suspension of these legal proceedings. Both the captors and the claimants disavowed the obligation of providing for their maintenance. There was no dwelling in which they might reside on shore and scarcely any provisions by which they could be maintained on board. The hurricane season was approaching; and neither party chose to encounter the responsibility of landing the negroes, fearing lest they should render themselves liable for the loss which their escape would occasion. The result was, that these unhappy people continued many months confined in the hold of the slave ship, exposed to the fury of the elements, the disorders of the climate, and the want of sufficient or wholesome food. A frightful mortality ensued.

To prevent the recurrence of similar calamities, the statute 55 George III. c. 172, required, that all persons held and treated as slaves, who might be proceeded against for adjudication in any court, should be put on shore by the claimants; and if they should neglect to supply sufficient food and necessities for the maintenance of the slaves during the proceedings, the governor was to authorize the officer of the customs to take these duties on himself, until the court should have made its decree condemning or restoring the slaves. If the definitive sentence should be delayed in consequence of further proof being required, authority was given to the court to direct a valuation of the slaves, the amount of which was to be paid to the claimants, if they should ultimately obtain a sentence of restitution. In this case the negroes were to be treated in the same manner as slaves condemned under the abolition acts.

In tracing the history of the slave trade abolition laws, it next becomes necessary to advert to the act for the general registration of slaves, passed in the year 1819, the stat. 59 Geo. III. c. 120. Upon this subject, which embraces a very wide field of inquiry, somewhat remote from our present purpose, we shall only give such explanations as will be necessary to render the provisions of this statute intelligible.

On the 26th March 1812, an order in council was passed for registering the slaves in the island of Trinidad. This order was unavoidably of great length: it required, in general, that every proprietor of slaves in the island, should render on oath a return of their number; in which were to be contained the names of each slave, with a specification of every circumstance, such as age, stature, and sex, which would most effectually serve to identify the individual. These returns were to be made to an officer, to be called the registrar of slaves, who was to transcribe them in books, to be called the books of registry. The original or primary registration being closed, would exhibit a complete statistical description of the whole slave population of the colony. At the end of each subsequent year, other returns were to be made to the same officer, exhibiting all the intermediate variations in the state of the slaves belonging to each proprietor. These periodical returns being registered, would carry on from year to year a progressive history of the whole slave population of the island. Obedience to this law was enforced by a great variety of penal sanctions, admirably adapted to their end. Of these, the most important were the provisions that any slave omitted in the registry should become free, and that no title to slaves could be acquired except by conveyances, unless the slaves to be conveyed were accurately registered.

It will probably be unnecessary to remind our readers of the controversy which arose between the authors of this measure and the colonial assemblies, respecting the proposed extension of it, by act of parliament, to all the colonies in which slavery is known. For this purpose a bill was introduced by Mr. Wilberforce. During this discussion, however, it appeared to his majesty's government, to be a convenient mode of avoiding the inconveniences which they apprehended from passing such a law, to recommend to the different colonial assemblies to undertake this office for themselves. These bodies, from whatever motive we do not now stop to inquire, acted upon this suggestion; and in the years 1816, 1817, and 1818, passed different acts for the registration of their slaves; and all, with the exception only of that from the Bahama Islands, were confirmed by the king in council. No one who has not made the comparison for himself, can form any adequate judgment of the crude, imperfect, and evasive style in which these colonial acts are framed. Each differs widely from the rest; and all depart to an immeasurable distance from the original model upon which they were founded. This mass of confusion and inconsistency, however, became the settled law of the colonies.

The islands of Mauritius and Saint Lucie, and the colony of the Cape of Good Hope, have, as is well known, no internal legislative body; but are governed either by orders in council, or by ordinances made by the governor, under the sanction of the crown. The same is the constitution of the colonies of Demerara and Berbice. With regard to the system of registration, however, a difference was made between these colonies, the principle of which we are unable to explain. In the Mauritius and St. Lucie, and at the Cape of Good Hope, registries were established by the authority of orders in council, promulgated for each particular colony. In Demerara and Berbice, the immediate legislative authority of the crown was not exerted for this purpose, but the registry laws were enacted by the authority of the governor and his council. The consequence of this difference in the origin of the laws was such as ordinarily foresight might have predicted. The orders in council copied (though with some important variations) from that of Trinidad, were minute, and in general effective; the local ordinances resembled those of the other colonies, or were even more vague and deficient.

By these various means, all the colonies of Great Britain in which any slave population exists, with the single exception of the Bahama Islands, possessed a registry of slaves. In all, the same general rule requiring an original and subsequent periodical return, was in force; but in none, with the exception only of Trinidad, were any regulations established sufficient to ensure a punctual obedience to the law. In this respect, the orders applying to the Cape, to St. Lucie, and the Mauritius, had greatly declined from their original model. To remedy this general deficiency of the colonial laws, with respect to what has been called their executory principle;—in other words, to supply an adequate motive to ensure the exact registration of the slaves in each colony,—the statute 59 George III. c. 120. was enacted. By this act, an office was established in London, in which copies of all the colonial registers were to be deposited; and it was enacted, that no subject of the crown in the united kingdom might purchase slaves in any of the colonies, or lend money on the security of such slaves, unless they should be first registered in the office in London; but that every conveyance executed within this kingdom to any of his majesty's subjects, should be void in respect of any such unregistered slaves. It was further required, that no such conveyance should be valid, unless the registered name and description of the slaves were set forth in the conveyance. Still further to ensure obedience, it was declared, that whenever any slaves were sent from one of his Majesty's colonies to another, the exporters should produce at the customhouse of the port of embarkation, a certificate from the register of the colony of their having been registered. This certificate, containing all the particulars respecting such

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slaves as appear in the registry, was to be annexed to the clearance to be given for their exportation; and on the arrival of the ship at her place of destination, was to be produced to the custom-house officer of that port, who was bound to ascertain, by personal inspection, the identity of the slaves imported, which those mentioned in the certificate, before admitting the imported vessel to entry. A similar certificate of registration was also required on the embarkation of domestic slaves or mariners in a state of slavery.

The last branch of the general code of laws, adopted by Great Britain for enforcing the abolition of the slave trade, arose out of the treaties between this country and foreign powers. Our space, however, will not allow us to enter now into any explanations of this system, which, though closely, is not indissolubly connected with the slave trade abolition code of Great Britain.

We have now, however, to advert to certain laws, for which we believe the advocates of the abolition are in no sense responsible, unless indeed they have to answer for remissness in not opposing them.

We have already shown that the importation of slaves into the conquered colonies, was prohibited by the order in council of the 15th August 1805, and by the foreign slave trade act of the following year. This trade also fell within the general prohibition, and was not embraced by the partial exceptions of the slave trade felony act.

The importation of slaves from the British West India Islands into Demerara, was therefore a felony, and subjected the importer to the penalties of all these different statutes. This salutary rule was now, however, to be partially infirmed. The new British colonies in Guiana contain extensive tracts of uncultivated land, and present a very strong temptation to speculators in sugar. The culture of the cane requires the richest soils, and rapidly exhausts the land in which it is carried on. Many of the old colonies, especially Grenada, Dominica and Barbadoes, have gradually ceased to yield the abundant harvests which they once produced, and the difficulty of cultivating their plantations to advantage has for many past years been progressively increasing. Hence arose a strong temptation to transfer the labour of the slaves of those islands, to the virgin mould of Demerara and Berbice. In the Bahamas, the cultivation of sugar cane is scarcely known. The lighter labour of the fisheries, of the salt ponds, and above all of cotton-planting, form the principal occupation of the slaves in this archipelago. Their numbers have therefore increased with unusual rapidity, and their price has of course proportionably diminished. To the Bahama planter, it therefore became an object of great interest to find a market where his redundant slave population was in demand. Now if it be assumed that the African race were only called into existence to labour for the natives of Europe; and that they can have no interest opposed to that of their masters, or none which it is fit to consult; and that perpetual banishment from the land of his birth, attended with a change from the lightest to the most severe labour, is an evil not to be regarded where a negro is the sufferer; and that he is a useless incumbrance on the ground the moment he ceases to be a merchantable commodity;—these things, we say, being taken for granted, it followed that nothing could be more just, than to transport the natives of Dominica and the Bahamas, to labour in the pestiferous swamps of Guiana, for the benefit of their owners in Great Britain. The only obstacle was the code of laws for the abolition of the slave trade. There were not, however, wanting those who thought fit to disregard this difficulty. We read, in the statute 58 Geo. III. c. 49, the following preamble:—"Whereas divers persons have, contrary to law, imported into His Majesty's possessions on the continent of South America, certain negro-slaves from other possessions of His Majesty." What follows? a denunciation of vengeance against such criminals; or more exact precautions to prevent the recurrence of similar abuses?—"And whereas it is expedient that all persons who have been concerned in advising, authorizing, or making such importations of negro slaves as aforesaid, contrary to law, should be indemnified;—inasmuch as such importations have been made under a belief, that they were authorized by law." We have heard from very great lawyers the maxim *Ignorantia legis non excusat* applied to the offences of criminals, whose ignorance no man living could doubt. Yet in this case, for some reason which the legislature has not thought fit to explain, we find this sage maxim reversed. Merchants, planters, governors, and custom-house officers, with the abolition acts before their eyes, are permitted to urge their ignorance of the law as an excuse for felony; and, stranger still, are not only to plead this defence in bar of punishment, but even in bar of investigation. All judgments and prosecutions which had been commenced against any persons for having advised or made any such importation, at any time before the passing of the act of indemnity, were thereby "discharged and made void." Any one therefore who, with the fullest knowledge and most wilful defiance of the law, had imported slaves into these colonies from any other possession of the crown, might take shelter under this indulgent statute. But it was not thought enough to indemnify the criminals; parliament regarded them as entitled to favour, and seems to have reserved its whole indignation for those who should have been guilty of the crime of enforcing the abolition laws. The act direct-

ed, that if an action had been already commenced against any person for any such importation, the Court was not only, on the application of the defendant, to stay all proceedings, but was to award him double costs, which the presumptuous prosecutor was to pay. Still it may be imagined, that at least the slaves who, without the imputation of a fault, had been thus illegally transported from their native or adopted countries, were, by the justice of the British parliament, restored to their native homes. Not only is the criminal indemnified,—not only is his prosecutor punished, but, more singular still, the offender is protected in the enjoyment of the profits of his crime:—"It is enacted, that the said importations be, and be deemed valid and of due force in law." The legislature, however, adopted means to prevent the recurrence of the offence? For the honour of the British parliament, we wish we could answer in the affirmative. Listen, however, to the preamble of the third section:—"Whereas it has been represented that there is in the Bahama Islands, and on certain estates in the island of Dominica, a considerable quantity of land which from length of cultivation has become exhausted. And whereas it has in consequence become impossible for the proprietors of such lands to find profitable employment and subsistence for the negro slaves, who are their property and have hitherto been supported by cultivating the said land; and whereas it might tend to ameliorate the condition of the said negro slaves, if they could by law be transported to certain of His Majesty's possessions on the continent of South America, to which by law they cannot now be transported. Be it enacted," &c. Now we would ask those who are among the most forward (and no one can be too forward) to reprobate the wholesale transportations to Guiana which distinguished the later years of the French revolution, whether any of those acts of oppression were covered with a slighter pretext than this? It is not suggested that Dominica and the Bahama Islands would not have afforded a maintenance for their population. The representation is, that profitable employment and subsistence could not be found; in other words, the master's profit is the single circumstance to be considered when the banishment for life of his slave is in question. The Dominica slave was no longer merchantable, nor capable of producing articles of a profitable commerce. What then? He could have cultivated his provision grounds; he could have reared cattle, pigs and poultry; he might have raised maize, bananas, plantains, and the various other indigenous products of the climate; he could have converted his native island, from an unprofitable sugar plantation, into farms capable of maintaining its own population in ease and abundance; but profitable employment,—that is, employment yielding consignments to the planter in England—there was none, and the unoffending slave must therefore be carried to lands where his sinews and his spirit could be converted to some profitable use. The slaves, however, were to be granted by the king in council upon proof that they might be so transported without disadvantage to themselves, and bond was to be given to remove them in families. But whence was this proof to come? From the "proprietor;" and who was to check the truth of his statements, or to act as advocate for the absent slave? No one. Need it then be said, that this affected precaution was but a mockery? There is not an African slave trader, who, if his unopposed, uncontradicted, tale is to be received, will not prove that his victims are transported "without disadvantage to themselves." And as to the bonds for moving the slaves in families, we would ask, What is meant by a family? Does it include a bosom friend, or betrothed wife, a decrepid mother, the orphan child of a brother, or a sister? does it include all lineals and all collaterals? And if not, what are the degress excepted? Is the master to give bond for transporting those members of a family who are not his own property? Are the family to be sold together on their arrival in Demerara? In what penalty is the bond to be given? When, how, and by whom, is proof to be made that its conditions are complied with? To these questions the act affords no answer; and why? because they who drew it knew that the clause was not to be enforced, but was framed merely to give a colour to what was utterly indefensible and unjust.

We have dwelt upon this Act, the rather, because, in the first place, it affords a strong illustration of the danger of inattention to the proceedings of the enemies of the cause. We are quite certain that these clauses were not permitted to disgrace our statutebook with the assent of any one of the old steady friends of the abolition: we believe that they never heard of their existence till they learnt their effects. It is well known that many a law is passed "by and with the advice and consent of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament assembled," of which, neither the Spiritual nor Temporal Lords nor Commons in Parliament are much more aware than is the Emperor of China. We are firmly persuaded that this was of the number.

Our second object is to urge the repeal of this law. We are well assured that if the case were distinctly laid before parliament, an Act so iniquitous could not for one moment be sustained. A disinclination to appeal to parliament with the urgency and reiteration which the magnitude of the occasion requires, may, we fear, be numbered among the errors of which the advocates of the cause of Africa

have latterly been guilty. It only remains to notice the sequel of this violation of abolition principles. The legislature of the Bahama Islands having refused for several years to imitate the example of the other colonies, by passing a registration act, it became impossible to make use of licenses which had been granted for the exportation of slaves from this colony to Demerara, since the certificate required by the general Slave Registration Act could not be procured. It might have been supposed that parliament would have judged it equitable to insist on the compliance of the legislature of the Bahamas, and would steadily have withheld from the proprietors in that colony, relief from the inconvenience to which their own contumacy exposed them. The legislature, however, judged otherwise: by the stat. 1 Geo. IV. c. 50, it was declared, that notwithstanding the want of a registrar of slaves in the Bahama Islands, the persons on whose behalf licenses for the removal of slaves to Demerara had been granted before the 1st January 1819, might remove them accordingly.

The preceding narrative will afford a general view of what may be termed the English Abolition Code. Our space will not permit us at present to prosecute the subject further than by subjoining the following summary of these Acts. It is arranged in five distinct sections.

SECTION I.—PROHIBITORY REGULATIONS.

RULE I. § 1.

It is illegal to remove or assist in removing as a slave, or for the purpose of being dealt with as a slave, any person, from any place whatever, or to import or assist in importing any person for any such purpose into any place whatsoever. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

EXCEPTIONS.

1st. Slaves may be imported from one British colony in the West Indies to any other British colony in the West Indies. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 13. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 4. 59 Geo. III. c. 120. s. 11.

But in this case a bond must be given to His Majesty, and a license obtained from the governor or chief officer of customs of the exporting colony, and a certificate of importation from the chief officer of customs of the importing colony must be produced in the exporting colony, in the manner directed by the clauses above referred to. A certificate of registration must also be obtained from the registrar of the exporting colony, and produced to the chief officer of customs both of the exporting and importing colonies in the manner prescribed by the statute 59 Geo. III. c. 120. s. 11.

2d. Slaves may be imported into any of His Majesty's possessions on the continent of South America from the Bahama Islands and from Dominica.

But in this case a license must be obtained from His Majesty in council, and bond must be given to remove the slaves in families, and a certificate of registration must be obtained from the registrar of slaves of the exporting colony, and produced to the chief officer of customs both of the exporting and importing colony in the manner prescribed by the statute 59 Geo. III. c. 120. s. 11.

3d. Slaves convicted in any British colony of any transportable offence, may be transported to any foreign colony. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 5.

But in this case a copy of the judgement, certified by the court before which the offender was convicted, is to be put on board the ship in which he may be transported.

4th. Slaves may be imported into any place where the importation entirely arises from stress of weather, peril of the sea, or other inevitable accident. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 5.

But in this case it is to be proved to the satisfaction of the court in which the forfeiture may be prosecuted, that the prohibited act entirely arose from some one of the above mentioned circumstances, and the whole burden of proof is to lie on the defendant.

5th. The penalties of the Slave-Trade Felony Act are not incurred by the removal of slaves from one part of any British colony in the West Indies to any other part of the same colony, or from one part of any foreign colony to any other part of the same colony. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 4.

6th. The penalties of the Slave-Trade Felony Act are not incurred by importing slaves into any British colony in the West Indies which is the place of their birth, or into which they may have been at any former time lawfully brought. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 4.

7th. Slaves may be employed in navigation, fishing, or in their ordinary occupation on the seas. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 13. 59 Geo. III. c. 49. s. 5.

But the number of slaves employed in one boat or vessel are not to exceed those usually employed in navigating such vessels or boats; and if such sailors or fishermen are carried in any ship from any British colony to any foreign or British colony, their names and occupations are to be inserted in the clearance of the ship by the chief officer of customs

of the port from which the vessel clears outwards, who shall certify that the slaves so carried were reported or described to him as seamen or fishermen.

The owner of any such mariners is also to obtain from the registrar of slaves of the exporting colony, the certificate required by the 59 Geo. III. c. 120. s. 12, which certificate is to be always on board the ship.

8th. Any slave who is truly the domestic servant of any person residing in any of His Majesty's dominions, may attend his owner or any part of his family by sea to any place whatever. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 13. 59 Geo. III. c. 49. s. 5. 59 Geo. III. c. 120. s. 12.

But the names of such slaves are to be inserted on the clearance, and such certificate is to be given by the chief officer of customs as is necessary with respect to seamen and fishermen. This clearance and certificate are not necessary for slaves attending on the person of any passenger on board, if the number of such attendants does not exceed two for every passenger. The master of every domestic slave is to obtain from the registrar of the exporting colony the certificate of registration required by the statute 59 Geo. III. c. 120. s. 12, which is to be produced to the registrar of slaves of the importing colony.

9th. The commander in chief, either by sea or land, in any territory under his Majesty's dominions, may order any slaves to be put on board any ship, in order to be employed in His Majesty's military or naval service. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 13.

RULE II. § 1.

It is unlawful to trade in, to buy or sell, or to contract for buying or selling any slave or person who is to be dealt with as a slave, in the manner prohibited by the preceding Rule No. 1. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 1.

RULE III. § 1.

It is unlawful to ship, or receive, or confine on board any vessel, any person for the purpose of his being removed or imported, or dealt with as a slave, or to assist in any such act. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 3. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

RULE IV. § 1.

It is illegal to use or to permit the use of, or to take to freight or to hire any vessel which is to be employed in the removal, importation or exportation of slaves, or of persons to be dealt with as slaves. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

RULE V. § 1.

It is unlawful to fit out, or to cause to be fitted out, or to command, or to navigate, or to enter any vessel as master, captain, mate, supercargo, or surgeon, knowing that such vessel is employed, or is, in the same voyage on which the officer shall embark, intended to be employed, in the removal, importation or exportation of slaves, or of persons to be dealt with as slaves. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

RULE VI. § 1.

It is unlawful to enter as a petty officer, servant, or seaman, on board any vessel used or intended to be used in the removal, importation, or exportation of slaves, or of persons to be dealt with as slaves, knowing that such is or shall be the purpose of the voyage. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 2.

RULE VII. § 1.

It is unlawful to underwrite, or procure to be underwritten, any policy of insurance on any ship, or goods or on the freight of any ship employed or intended to be employed in the removal, importation, or exportation of slaves, or of persons to be dealt with as slaves. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 7. 47 Geo. III. c. 26 s. 5. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 2.

RULE VIII. § 1.

It is illegal to employ any sum of money or any goods in carrying slaves to any place under the dominion of any foreign power, or to any colonies surrendered during the late war, or to lend money, or to become security for any loan of money or goods where it is known to the lender, or surety, that such money or goods are to be so employed or to become security for any factor employed in the sale of slaves for the supply of any such foreign or conquered place, or colony, or to engage in any manner in supplying with slaves any such foreign place or conquered colony. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 6.

EXCEPTION.

All the nine cases which are stated as exceptions to the general Rule No. 1. § 1. may probably be also regarded as exceptions to the 2d, 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th Rules. In other words, the acts prohibited by these rules are not illegal when done in any of those nine excepted cases.

RULE X. § 1.

It is unlawful for any British ship or her crew to be engaged in or at Africa, or on the coast of Africa in supplying with slaves any foreign ship

or factory, or in so supplying any person concerned either on account of such ship or factory, or on account of any foreign country. 45 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 8.

RULE X. § 1.

It is unlawful for any foreign ship employed, or intended to the employ, in the African slave trade, to be fitted out at or dispatched from any port in His Majesty's dominions for a voyage to Africa, whether that be the immediate place of destination, or not. 49 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 6.

RULE XI. § 1.

It is unlawful to put on board any foreign ship when destined directly or indirectly to Africa, at any port in His Majesty's dominions, any goods with intent that the same shall be there bartered for slaves or employed in the African slave trade. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 9.

SECTION II.—PENAL SANCTIONS.

RULE I. § 2.

All the penalties imposed by the several statutes 46 Geo. 3. c. 52, 52, 47 Geo. III. c. 36, and 51 Geo. III. c. 23 may be enforced the last of these statutes has given the character of felony to many of the acts prohibited by the two former. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 7.

RULE II. § 2.

In case any person should be removed or exported as a slave, in violation of the preceding Rule No. 1. § 1, the persons offending, and their abettors, are felons, and are liable to transportation for any term not exceeding fourteen years, or to imprisonment and hard labour for any term not exceeding five nor less than three years, at the discretion of the court. The offender is also liable to a penalty of 100l. sterling, for each slave unlawfully removed or transported, of which one moiety is to be paid to the king, and the other moiety to the informer. The slaves illegally imported are to be forfeited to the crown. The ship in which the slaves may be removed, with her boats, and furniture, are to be also forfeited to the king. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. § 3 & 4. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 3, 4.

RULE III. § 2.

If any person trades in slaves, or contracts for buying slaves, in violation of the Rule No. 1. § 1, he will incur the penalty of 100l. on every slave purchased or agreed for. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 1.

RULE IV. § 2.

If any person is taken on board any ship for the purpose of being dealt with as a slave, in contravention of the rule No. III. § 1. the same penalties are incurred as are stated under the Rule No. II. § 2. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 3. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

RULE V. § 2.

If any person shall use, charter or hire a ship in violation of the rule No. IV. § 1. such person is guilty of felony, and liable to transportation or imprisonment to hard labour in the manner mentioned under Rule II. § 2. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

RULE VI. § 2.

If any person shall fit out, or navigate, or command, or enter any vessel in violation of the Rule No. V. § 1. such person is guilty of felony, and liable to transportation or imprisonment to hard labour in the manner mentioned under Rule II. § 2. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 1.

RULE VII. § 2.

If any person enters any slave-vessel as a petty officer, servant, or seaman, in violation of the Rule No. VI. § 1. such person is guilty of a misdemeanor, and liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding 2 years. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 2.

RULE VIII. § 2.

If any person subscribes or procures the subscription of any policy of insurance in violation of the Rule No. VII. § 1. the insurance is void; the offender, if the importation is to take place into any foreign country, if to forfeit 500l., in every other case the sum of 100l., and treble the premium insured, and he is also liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding 2 years. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 7. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 5. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 2.

RULE IX. § 2.

Any person employing money of goods, or lending money, or becoming surety in manner prohibited by the Rule No. VIII. § 1. is liable to a forfeiture of double the money or goods so lent or employed, and all securities so taken are void, except only in the hands of a bona fide holder for valuable consideration without notice. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 6.

RULE X. § 2.

If any British ship is engaged in supplying foreign ships or factories with slaves in the manner prohibited by the Rule No. IX. § 2. the

vessel, her boats and furniture, are liable to forfeiture, and the Master is subject to a penalty of 100l. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 8.

RULE XI. § 2.

If any foreign ship is fitted out at, or dispatched from, any part in His Majesty's dominions for a voyage to Africa, in violation of the Rule No. X. § 1. the vessel with her boats, furniture, and cargo, is liable to forfeiture; and the persons engaged in fitting out or dispatching the ship are liable to a penalty of 100l. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 9.

RULE XII. § 2.

If any person shall put on board any foreign ship destined to Africa any goods to be employed in the slave trade in violation of the Rule No. XI. § 1. the offender is liable to a penalty of 100l. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 9.

SECTION III.—SUITS AND INDICTMENTS.

RULE I. § 3.

All actions, indictments, or informations, for the recovery of any of the penalties or forfeitures imposed by the 46 Geo. III. c. 52, and 47 Geo. III. c. 36, may be commenced and prosecuted at any time within 3 years after the offence committed. 53 Geo. III. c. 112.

RULE II. § 3.

All ships, slaves, and goods, which may be forfeited for any offence committed against the 46 Geo. III. c. 52, and 47 Geo. III. c. 36, may be seized by any officer of the customs or excise, or by the commanders or officers of any of His Majesty's ships of war, or by governors or commanders in chief of any settlements or factories belonging to the king or to the African Company in Africa, or in any African Island, or by any persons deputed by any such governor or commander in chief. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 15. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 14. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 8.

RULE III. § 3.

The pecuniary penalties and forfeitures imposed by the Foreign Slave Trade Act, and the General Slave Trade Abolition Act, may be recovered in any court of record in Great Britain, or in any court of record or vice-admiralty in any part of His Majesty's dominions where the offence was committed. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 17 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 13.

RULE IV. § 3.

In all cases of seizure of ships, slaves, or goods for any forfeiture under the two last-mentioned Acts, the same may be prosecuted and recovered in any court of record in Great Britain, or in any court of record or vice-admiralty in any part of His Majesty's dominions in or nearest to which the seizures may be made, or to which the ships or slaves may be most conveniently carried for trial. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 17. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 13.

RULE V. § 3.

The prosecutor may proceed at his election for these penalties and forfeitures, either in the courts of admiralty or in the courts of record of the colonies. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 17. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 13. 4 Geo. III. c. 15.

RULE VI. § 3.

All offences against the General Slave Trade Abolition Act may be prosecuted as misdemeanors committed within the county of Middlesex. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 15.

RULE VII. § 3.

Defendants in any action brought for any thing done in pursuance of the 46 Geo. III. cap. 52, or 47 Geo. III. c. 36, may plead the general issue, and, if the plaintiff is nonsuited, shall recover treble costs. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 19. 17 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 18.

RULE VIII. § 3.

Felonies or misdemeanors against the Slave Trade Felony Act may be committed—either, 1st, in England—or 2ndly, in some of his Majesty's colonies—or, 3dly, in any place on shore out of His Majesty's dominions other than the continent of Africa—or, 4thly, within the jurisdiction of the admiral—or, 5thly, on the coast of Africa beyond the limits of any of His Majesty's African colonies. In the 1st of these cases the trial must take place in England, either under the statute 28 Hen. VIII. c. 15, or under the statute 23 Hen. VIII. c. 23. In the 2nd and 3rd cases it may take place either in England under one or other of the two last-mentioned statutes, or in the colonies under the 11 and 12 Will. III. c. 7.—In the 4th case it must take place either in England under one or other of the statutes 28 Hen. VIII. c. 15. and 23 Hen. VIII. c. 23, or in the colonies under the 46 Geo. III. c. 54. vide 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 6. 68 Geo. III. c. 93. 59 Geo. III. c. 97.

SECTION IV.—BOUNTIES AND ENCOURAGEMENTS.

RULE I. § 4.

Officers and others making and prosecuting seizures under the Abolition Acts, are to have the benefit of the provisions made by any act of parliament for the protection of officers seizing goods imported in violation of the laws of trade. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 18. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 14.

RULE II. § 4.

Forfeitures and penalties are to be divided between the governor the seizing officers and the crown, in the same manner as penalties incurred for violations of the laws of trade. 46 Geo. III. c. 52. s. 17. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 13.

RULE III. § 4.

Ships of war, or privateers duly commissioned, capturing as prize of war slaves which are finally condemned to the crown, are entitled to bounties of 40*l*. for each man, 30*l*. for each woman, and 10*l*. for each child, delivered in good health to the proper officers, on producing the proper certificate from those officers. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 8 and 9.

RULE IV. § 4.

Commanders of His Majesty's ships seizing slaves which are condemned not as prize of war, but under the Abolition Acts, are entitled to 20*l*. for each man 15*l*. for each woman 5*l*. for each child, on producing the proper certificate. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 11.

RULE V. § 4.

Persons prosecuting slaves seized and condemned to His Majesty's not as prize of war, but under the Abolition Acts, are entitled to 13*l*. for each man, 10*l*. for each woman, and 3*l*. for each child on producing the proper certificate; and the governor of the colony in which the seizure is made is to have similar bounties. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 11.

RULE VI. § 4.

Where any ships engaged in the slave trade in violation of the conventions with Spain, Portugal, or the Netherlands, shall be seized by any ship belonging to the king duly authorized to make seizures, one moiety of the proceeds in case of condemnation is payable to the captors, with a bounty of 10*l*. for each man, woman, and child, seized on board such ships and condemned. 1 and 2 Geo. IV. c. 99. s. 5.

RULE VII. § 4.

Ships forfeited under the Abolition Acts, or condemned by any Commission Court under the conventions with Spain, Portugal, and the Netherlands, are entitled to a certificate of registry and all the privileges of British shipping, but subject to the same conditions as are in force with respect to ships condemned as prize of war. 54 Geo. III. c. 59. 1 and 2 Geo. IV. c. 99.

RULE VIII. § 4.

Petty officers or seamen on board slave ships giving information within three months after the arrival of such ships in port, that offenders dealing in slaves may be apprehended, are not liable to any punishment. If such information is given at any place out of His Majesty's dominions, to the king's ambassadors, envoys, &c. within the same time of three months, the informer is also discharged from all punishment; and the ambassadors or consuls are to transmit the information to one of His Majesty's principal secretaries of state. 51 Geo. III. c. 23. s. 9.

SECTION V.—MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION OF CAPTURED SLAVES.

RULE I. § 5.

During any prosecution of slaves under the Abolition Acts, the claimant is to place the slaves on shore; and should he neglect to supply them with sufficient maintenance during the proceedings, the governor may authorize the chief officer of the customs to supply proper food and necessities until a definite sentence:—the expenses to be a charge on the slaves, to be defrayed by the person receiving possession of them under the decree of the court. If the court directs further proof, and the claimant shall neglect to maintain the slaves, the court may direct them to be valued and delivered over as condemned to His Majesty. In the event of a decree in favour of the claimant, restitution is to be made to him,—not of the slaves themselves, but of the amount of the valuation, after deducting the charges of maintenance. A similar proceeding is to take place in the event of an appeal either by the captor or prosecutor, or by the claimant or defendant. The court may nevertheless award costs or damages against the captors or prosecutors. 55 Geo. III. c. 172.

RULE II. § 5.

Slaves illegally imported into His Majesty's dominions, and there sold or kept in a state of slavery, may be seized and prosecuted in the

same manner as goods unlawfully imported under the laws of trade and navigation. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 4.

RULE III. § 5.

Slaves condemned to the crown, either as prize of war or as forfeited under the Abolition Acts, are forfeited for the purpose only of barring the title of all other persons, and shall in no case be dealt with as slaves. 47 Geo. III. c. 36. s. 7.

RULE IV. § 5.

Such condemned slaves are to be either enlisted into the land or sea service, or bound apprentices for any term not exceeding fourteen years, subject to such regulations as the king may direct by any order in council; and after the term of apprenticeship has expired, the king in council may make regulations for their future disposal and support. 47 Geo. I. c. 36. s. 7.

Law Report.

COURT OF KING'S BENCH, SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 1822.

CLERICAL BARGAIN—LORD SONDERS V. FLETCHER.

A Special Jury was impanelled in this case, to enquire into and assess damages on a bond for 12,000*l*. executed to the plaintiff by defendant, under the following circumstances:—The defendant, a clergyman, had been tutor to the Noble plaintiff, and in 1814 a living, in the gift of his Lordship becoming vacant, he offered it to his tutor upon certain conditions, which the defendant undertook to perform: and the better to secure such performance, he executed the bond in question, subjecting himself, by a breach of covenant, to a penalty not exceeding 12,000*l*. His Lordship had a brother, the Hon. W. Watson, preparing for the church, and the condition of the bond was, that the defendant on being required to do so, would resign the living in question in favour of this individual. Mr. Watson having qualified himself to enter on the living, the defendant was required to fulfil the conditions of this bond, and give up the living. This, however, he refused to do, and upon that refusal the present proceedings were instituted.

The execution of the bond, &c. having been regularly proved, the Solicitor General, on the part of the defendant, submitted that this bond was an illegal instrument, and therefore that legal proceedings could not be instituted upon it. As to the facts of the case, he should be able to prove such as would, at all events, reduce the damages to which the plaintiff was entitled far below the penalty mentioned in the bond. The living in question was indeed nominally worth 800*l*. a year; but this value was very much reduced by the present depressed state of Agriculture. Besides this, the defendant was entitled to deduct 50*l*. a year for land tax and other outgoings, and 200*l*. for a curate. This would reduce even the nominal value of this living to 550*l*. Mr. Watson, in whose favour he was required to resign, was twenty-four years of age, and that accurate calculator, Mr. Morgan, of the Equitable Office, would tell the Jury that a fair remuneration to him would be fourteen years' purchase, or 7,700*l*. This would be supposing the living really worth 350*l*. a year; but he would prove that it fell far short of that sum now, whatever it might have been in the flourishing days of agriculture. In addition to this also, he submitted that the Jury would have deducted from the damages to which the Noble plaintiff was entitled, 1,400*l*. and upwards, which the defendant had expended in building a new parsonage house, in a state of utter dilapidation. All these circumstances, he contended, would reduce the damages to sum little more than nominal.

The Learned Counsel called witnesses in support of this statement.

The Chief Justice summed up, and, in doing so, observed, he would not now give any opinion whether this bond was either a legal or an illegal instrument. With that question they had nothing to do on the present occasion. The parties, if they chose, might hereafter have the opinion of the highest tribunal in the kingdom on that subject. The question the Jury would have to decide would be, what was the amount of damage due to the plaintiff, as the Jury would recollect that although the bond set out a penalty of 12,000*l*. they were not bound to give that sum, but only so much of it as they considered fairly due to the plaintiff. His Lordship then related the facts of the case to the Jury, and observed, that he left the question of amount of damages entirely with them.

The Jury, after a short consultation, found a verdict for the plaintiff.—Damages 10,000*l*.

Royal Births.—The two Princesses of the Infants Don Carlo and Don Francis Paulo, brothers to the King of Spain, were delivered of two Princes, on the 12th and 13th of May, at Arragus.

History of the Indian Bull.

We still retain the belief, so often expressed and acted upon, that the most effectual way to punish malice, and disarm hatred and envy, is to expose their productions to the world, and leave it to the good sense and common justice of mankind to stamp them with the execration they deserve. We have done so more frequently than for the honour of human nature could be wished;—but, however odious may be the persevering zeal of accusing malignity, it must be honorable and praiseworthy to be ever ready to meet it with the armour of defence; and although we have long ceased to notice every rancorous production that is put forth in the columns of our deadly enemy, (for "rival" is too honorable a term), the repetition of such productions demands at least that we should occasionally descend to brush away the reptiles that would else accumulate their filth to the annoyance of the community at large. It is the duty of some one to stand in the breach, and stop the torrent of base and unmanly invective, which spares neither private life nor pecuniary transactions, which makes the dearest relations of family and kindred a mockery and a jest, and which strives to tarnish the just and honorable credit without which no confidence can exist: as if the endearments of the domestic circle, and the fair fame which forms the basis of other connections, were hateful in the eyes of these aggressors; and as if they had determined, either by fraud, by force, or by misrepresentation, to undermine and destroy what they could not bear to behold because it made another happy.

None of our Readers can have forgotten the avowed purpose with which the JOHN BULL of India was established. While professing to search after that only which was conformable to Truth and Decency, its very Prospectus put forth the most unblushing violations of the former, in describing "sanguinary animosities," "scattering firebrands," "insults to religion," "defiance of law," "calumnies against magistrates," "sedition against the government," and a long list of other crimes which made up the "guilty popularity" of the CALCUTTA JOURNAL. Its love of Decency was scarcely less manifest than its regard to Truth, and through a course of some twelve months, it evinced more flagrant violations of both, than any Paper that was ever before published in Calcutta. This is plain matter of fact, of which any one may judge for himself, by placing that short-lived and precious production,—"THE SPIRIT OF JOHN BULL IN THE EAST"—(which lingered through a brief period of three or four months and then died a natural death) by the side of any Indian Paper for the same period, and making their own comparison. It is now become a matter of history, a thing that is past, and of which it is the duty of every one to speak plainly, as the dictates of their conscience and the convictions of their minds shall direct them.

This Champion of Truth and Decency (to which never was name so ill-applied as that of the generous and honest JOHN BULL) failed to accomplish its object. "The free, the orderly, and the pious" were invoked "to unite not merely their wishes, but their efforts," avowedly to crush and annihilate the hateful JOURNAL which the great majority of the most respectable Englishmen in India patronized and upheld. They answered the call, and did unite both wishes and efforts, but to how little purpose the whole world has seen. It was in vain that the talents, which should have been wholly engrossed by the service of the Church and State from which they derived their honours and emoluments, were diverted from their proper channel to calumniate the JOURNAL—to vilify its Editor—to implore the Government of the Country to banish him without Trial—to deal forth dark threats and mysterious innuendos. All would not do. The disappointed rage of those who envied and hated what they themselves could never attain, was so abashed by perpetual putting to shame, and ultimately so exhausted through its own violence, that it died away—and dwindled into mere inanity and drivelling.

The first change in the Editorship of the Paper argued favorably for its future exemption from such violent hostility at least as

characterized its infancy; and in the opinion of many, a greater stock of talent as well as urbanity was likely to be brought into the field. Of the latter, we are free to confess that as far as the Editor himself was concerned, we had great reason to be pleased with the change; but in the former, there was a miserable deficiency, and as if the intention extended even to the Correspondents of the Paper, there was scarcely any subject on which they touched, from Political Economy (which they affected to undervalue) to Oriental Literature (on which they plumed themselves), in which they did not expose their utter incompetency for the task they had undertaken.

A third period arrived. The illness of the Second Editor obliged him to leave Calcutta for his health, and it was necessary to look out for a "Deputy BULL" to take his place, or in case of necessity a "Calf" perhaps would have been accepted rather than the breed should die away, since by proper treatment the said "Calf" might become, in time at least, as good a "BULL" as any of those that preceded him. It may serve as an Index of the value of this "strictly constitutional Print," as it was originally termed, to state that the Editorship literally went a begging. Mr. A. was asked, but his public duties were too important to admit of his writing more than an occasional Letter for its columns—Mr. B. was solicited, and tho' he offered his hearty co-operation in occasional aid, he could not take upon himself so high a responsibility.—Mr. C. modestly doubted his qualifications for so important a charge,—and Mr. D. tho' all willingness, could not promise the uninterrupted attention which so incessant a labour must necessarily require.—At last, they were obliged to put up with the scanty and hurried services of a Gentleman who was already a Merchant on his own account, an Agent on behalf of others, and a Commissioner in the Court of Requests; so that one would suppose such duties, if well performed, could leave but little leisure for editing a Daily Paper. Sufficient leisure, however, has been commanded; and it only shews how small a stock of talent, fitness, or time, is enough to form the trading capital of this Eastern Luminary, which never had much of original light, and is now shorn of even the few beams that it sent forth from borrowed lustre. This one fact, of the little labor required for its superintendence, is in itself a volume, as to its low standard of value as a Public Print, and shews that such of its readers as can be satisfied with it alone, are of no higher class in intellect than its compilers and publishers.—Well, indeed might the Second Editor say, "It may be stupid;—but it is all our own."

The very first act of the Third Editor of the BULL—or "Deputy" if that be the more correct designation,—was, as the Public are aware, to point out two private individuals in this society, as the persons indicated in the article from Blackwood, on Writers and Writerism. Whether such indication of the individuals was intended as complimentary or otherwise, it is not for us to decide. It is clear that it was not generally so received; but at all events, it betokened a revival or continuation of that spirit of interference with private individuals and private life, which has always characterized the Papers of the BULL-Party, from the moment when the whole community were roused to indignation, by the dragging before the Public two young, innocent, and unoffending Females, under the designation of "FAIR RADICALS," merely because they formed a part of the Editor of the JOURNAL's family—up to the present period, when even the nearest and dearest tie that can bind one being to another has not been sufficiently sacred to save from violation the sanctity of his private and most social enjoyments!

That portion of the Public (by far the largest) who never see the BULL, will scarcely believe it possible, that all the changes which have taken place in its management should have wrought no change in this base and abominable spirit of invading all that man holds dear—the tranquil and undisturbed enjoyment of his home, and all that constitutes its pleasures. So it is, however; and while the first Paper that came from the pen of the present Acting Editor contained the paragraph respecting the two Gentlemen of the Civil Service before alluded to, the very next Paper (the second that came from under his hand) contained a Letter

unparalleled for its indecent invasion of private life—even in the annals of Calcutta personality and slander.

It may be necessary to state, that the Editor of the JOURNAL, after a painful and unavoidable absence of ten years from those in whom his whole happiness as a husband and father were centered, had just received a large accession to his enjoyments by the arrival in India of the Head of this beloved Circle; and he had hoped, at least, that *she* would have been spared the pain of being dragged before the Public by those who having Families of their own ought at least to know (if they do not) that there are ties and bonds too sacred for their profane and unhallowed touch. He was, however, soon taught that he rated too highly the honor, the principle, and the delicacy of the BULL; for that Lady, whose virtues are as much beyond the sphere of such brutalized intellects as the heavens are above the earth, had scarcely been a week in India, and had not sufficiently recovered from the anxious apprehensions of an unusually perilous voyage to appear even in public, was most indecently held up to the ridicule of those who might expect to see her enjoy the common privilege of other Ladies in taking the air with her Husband on the Course. It is far more painful for us to write than it can possibly be for others to read such details as these;—and in the conflict of indignation and disgust that followed its first perusal, we threw the Paper by, as almost too contemptible to notice. We should have persevered in this intention, did we not perceive that our forbearance is repaid by new and fresh attempts to stab our credit and reputation in a manner more base and unprincipled than one could ever expect to see encouraged in any other Paper than the BULL. We shall come to this last charge presently; but in the mean time, that our Readers (many of whom will perhaps never have heard of it before) may not think we have exaggerated in our charge, as to the Letter published a few days after Mrs. Buckingham's arrival in India, and when an English Carriage brought by her from England was putting together at Stewart and Co.'s for her use,—we insert it here:

To the Editor of John Bull.

DEAR SIR,

I am sadly afraid that you will in future have but a small share of public favor; indeed, that even the higher circles, which are so constantly accused of taking in your paper, will henceforth completely cut you.—All the papers in Calcutta have been lamentably deficient in giving that due portion of light fashionable matter which is peculiarly relished at a Lady's breakfast table: a certain Editor has hitherto shown no more gallantry than yourself—but as it is never too late to mend, we understand he has just received from England a kind of travelling machine, so arranged that two persons, male and female, can be most comfortably accommodated in it, while sufficient room is still left for a very neat "Portable Columbian Printing Press."—In this carriage it is rumoured the Editor will move out every evening on the course attended by a FAIRWIND, and while he is taking notes of the feats of horsemanship, equipages and dress of all the Dandies, THE OTHER will be equally careful to note the dresses of the Ladies, and all who speak to each other, and are considered in a certain circle.—Now, Mr. BULL, as I am your friend, I am anxious to give you this early intelligence of what is preparing to undermine you, and I advise you to look about you, and contrive some method of being before hand with him—could you not set up a Balloon?—but first buy a neat portable Columbian Press, when I shall advise you further on this subject. I am dear BULL,

TIM. PATENT

We are satisfied that it is quite unnecessary for us to offer a word of comment on so indelicate and unprincipled an invasion of private and domestic relations as this Letter contains; the aim of which was evidently to excite feelings of ridicule against an unoffending Lady, and if possible to stamp her entry into Society with that publicity, from which the natural delicacy of the feminine character shrinks back appalled; or, perhaps still worse, to excite aversion or a feeling of odium, by studiously introducing this association of her thoughts and pursuits with all the bitterness that has divided Society here for so long a time, so as to deter even those of her sex who might have been disposed to exchange offices of

civility, from an approach to an intimacy which might be supposed to involve them also in the ridicule or odium thus so truly and unprovokedly attempted to be heaped on her innocent and unoffending head. We can imagine nothing more base, unprincipled, or dastardly than this; and all those revolting qualities are heightened by their being issued from behind a mask, under the shelter of a fictitious signature, and being put forth in such a way as that the sting should sink deep into the fine sensibilities of a female heart, without having any thing sufficiently tangible to enable that female's protector to bring, as they deserved to be brought, the individual who penned the Letter and the Publisher who issued it, before a Court of Justice or one of Honor, where they should receive signal punishment, in the infliction of public censure and reprimand in the most marked and public manner. The administration of this sort of Justice, is, however, in the hands of the community at large; and we are bold enough to say that if there be a human heart, either male or female, that does not condemn such an act as that of which we are speaking, it deserves richly to be made to *feel* its baseness by being made the next victim of this unprincipled warfare. The community at large should make common cause in such a case, for no one knows whose turn it may be next to have his dearest female relatives and connections brought before the world,—not for violations of morality or propriety, not for offences against public decorum inviting warning and denunciation, but while in the pursuit of all that is chaste, amiable, and honorable, while retiring even from the public gaze with that timidity which is the sure harbinger and companion of the highest virtues of the sex. We repeat, it is the common duty of every man, be he a husband and father or not, to discountenance and discourage such practices as these, and every individual who either from indolence or any other cause neglects to perform his portion of duty in manifesting such discouragement, is so far accessory to the continuance of the evil.

On this subject, we have expressed ourselves warmly, but it would be either more or less than human not to feel so; and having taken up the pen, after a long period of forbearance, we should not have done our duty had we passed over this outrage and aggression in perfect silence. Having disposed of this, however, we come to the more immediate object of these remarks, the Letter in the BULL of yesterday. There are two, under the choice signatures of NIC FRUG and PRIG PROSER. As they are evidently from the same hand, and the drift of both exactly the same, to strike a blow if possible at the pecuniary value and credit of the JOURNAL, so as to deter persons from purchasing Shares in its property, we shall content ourselves with taking the first of them, to let our Readers see to what a depth the "strictly constitutional Print"—which "united all the efforts of the free, the orderly, and the pious"—is obliged to stoop, in order to vent its petty venom against the JOURNAL, which it was set up to annihilate, but which has increased in value and importance with every succeeding year. This is the precious composition:

To the Editor of Jack Bull.

SIR,

You have read the fable no doubt of "Puss in Boots"—and you have also I dare say looked of late into the CALCUTTA JOURNAL, and amused yourself with its heroic attempts at valour and independence.—but the Cat in Boots, Mr. BULL, will not catch mice, and Monsieur le Journalist, will not while gag'd, convince even his Cockney admirers, that he is any thing but leather and prunella.—Puffing from a Correspondent will not now go down.—CADMUS may shew his teeth, but that is all—Hear however how modestly he speaks of the JOURNAL, now on the invalid establishment at Monghyr.—The puff is intended, Mr. Editor, for the Board of Control, as without some little hint from a 36 per cent. Share-holder, it is more than 10 to 1, that the Hon'ble Board would never be able to find out that the paper—once of the Public, but now of the adventurous Share-holders, contained aught, but old obsolete extracts from the Times, Chronicle and such like liberal Papers.—Hear how CADMUS speaks of this organ of independence.—"But when they become more familiar with it (the JOURNAL) and see with what judgment, taste, and spirit, the useful and the agreeable are blended in its pages, I doubt not that it will become a great favorite with the leading Members of the Court and Board!"—How are you off for puffs, Mr. JOHN BULL IN THE EAST? Will this, think you, take in another half-doubting swain?

Strange that CADMUS says nothing of the 36 per Cent. profit,—not even a hint?—Very strange this indeed; because had it been thrown out even indirectly it might have had effect, and who knows but the leading Members of the Court and the Board, would have become Subscribers. — By the way, talking of Subscribers, how does it happen, that one sees nothing of late in the papers about the sale of Shares—about the great Profits—about true-born Britons—about the freedom of the Calcutta Press—about the illegality of an order from the Governor General in Council, to Editors—about comparisons between requests from Agency Houses, and orders from Government—about: in short about every thing that the great independent Paper has been writing about with such furious zeal the last two or three years? Not a word—not a syllable, about any thing now a days, but Shipping Reports without news—and long Extracts from JOHN BULL. What is the cause of this sudden change, for a cause there surely must be? Is the report true, think you, that hostilities have ceased between the Belligerent powers for a specified time? what neutral power could have brought about this truce?—You should say something on this subject for the information of the BOARD, which when known to them may be “a very good theme for unextinguishable laughter,” where is the “Clove-foot” now Mr. BULL, where is the independence? where is the right of speaking out, fearless of consequences? All is gone, and with it are gone the 36 per Cent. holders, and nothing remains, but four sheets of stale second-hand Extracts.

NIC FROG.

P. S. Pray, pray, Mr. Editor, request your Correspondent to give us another Dialogue between Peter Perkins and Dick Downright.

There are many, perhaps, who after reading this Letter will think it too contemptible to deserve a serious reply. It is the spirit and the end at which it aims, however, that deserves to be combatted; and tho' the miserable garb in which that is clothed may be wholly disregarded, yet it may be worth our while to detect the poison that lurks within.

The first charge here pronounced is, that of our having indulged in “heroic attempts at valour and independence:”—If our professions have not been borne out by our conduct, if we have failed in any instance, public or private, to maintain our ground as becomes a man and a citizen, let the “Frog,” instead of croaking from the puddle in which he lies concealed, come forward to the world and name it:—if we fail in answering his charge, let the Public withdraw from us their confidence;—till then, however, we know they will continue their support.

The next complaint is, that while the JOURNALIST is gagged he cannot convince even his Cockney admirers that he is any thing but leather and prunella. If “gagging” be the proper term to apply to the present state of things (and let the BULL disavow it if he approve not the term) we should simply ask, on whom can the reproach rest—on those who apply the gag, or those who with their hands bound have no means of resisting its application?—Men are generally gagged, in countries where this is practised, that they may not cry out while their pockets are rifling, as preparatory perhaps to their throats being cut;—men were sometimes gagged also when undergoing torture for their political opinions:—but in all cases in which this forcible mode of stopping a man's utterance was resorted to, whatever the motive or the end, we never yet heard blame attached to the person who was gagged, though execrations are often uttered on the appliers of so hideous an engine. Let it be remembered that it is not we who introduce this term; we speak only of its common interpretation, and are open to correction if we are wrong; but at all events, whether we are gagged or not (and it is JOHN BULL's Correspondent who asserts that we are), let the blame, if any, rest on the right shoulders.

The next point adverted to is the opinion of CADMUS, “that if the JOURNAL be placed beside its contemporaries at the Board of Control, it will soon become the favourite.” This is called a puff, and it is plainly insinuated that it is a commendation wholly undeserved. If this opinion were merely that of CADMUS or any other individual, it would not be worth more than the contrary opinion of any opposing person. But it requires no great stretch of faith to believe his prediction likely to be fulfilled. The JOURNAL has been placed besides all the other Indian Papers, daily, for the last four years, and it has always been the favorite, maintaining its pre-eminence in circu-

lation over all the others, even to the present hour. No influence beyond its own merit has ever been exerted to give it an artificial value, no Functionaries or Dignitaries have waited to write it up and give it a claim to public estimation, but it has been visited with almost every species of opposition that could endanger its existence or threaten to put it down. Nevertheless, it has the honor to number on its List of Subscribers, more names of acknowledged rank and unquestionable respectability among the Civil and Military Servants of the Three Presidencies of India, than any other Paper that has ever been printed in the Country, and that too amidst all the disadvantage of its being powerfully opposed by influence and subject to a heavier expense of actual cost than any other Paper of the Presidency. It may be said, however, that this preference is shown in India only, and has no reference to the taste in England. The best reply to such an objection is the plain fact that there are more than 100 Subscribers to the Asiatic Department in London only, and that the Numbers find their way to Paris regularly, as well as to the remotest parts of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales. This could not be said of any other Paper published in India, and is at once an answer to the assertion that it contains nothing but obsolete Extracts from the CHRONICLE and the TIMES. People in England would not be very well pleased to receive back these, after a year's date. The JOHN BULL attempted to copy this Plan of an Asiatic Department, and produced a Monthly Pamphlet called the “Spirit of JOHN BULL IN THE EAST;” but after lingering through a brief space it was given up, and now remains a monument of the utter failure of its writers to pass off upon the Public a set of scurrilous productions in lieu of the useful and agreeable, which can alone deserve or long retain their support; while the JOURNAL increases in circulation, both at home and in this country, with every succeeding year. So much for the estimation in which the JOURNAL is every where held, in comparison to the Print that so systematically, but ineffectually, strives to bring it into disesteem.

We come now to the insinuation respecting the Shares in the property of the Paper, in which it is attempted to be inferred, from the silence recently observed on the subject, that the whole Scheme had been abandoned. The very reverse is, however, fortunately the case. Our silence arose from the success of the Scheme rendering it quite unnecessary to invite public attention to it more than had already been done. If the mere raising a sum of money had been the only object, the whole of the Shares might have been disposed of within the first week, and there is not a name perhaps on the Shareholder's List, that would not gladly take ten Shares instead of one, were it permitted. The object, however, was number and respectability rather than amount, and this is already accomplished beyond even our most sanguine wishes. We have the pleasure to state that we number on the List of Share Holders in the Journal, names of the highest rank, respectability, and talent, in the Civil and Military Service of the Country, as well as among the Mercantile community; and that the Profits of the Concern proceed with that steady uniformity which is the sure characteristic of a well-established and well-managed Business. Neither Mr. BULL nor Mr. DEPUTY BULL, PETER PERKINS nor DICK DOWNRIGHT, NIC FROG nor PRIG PROSER, with all their united powers combined, will be able to lessen the value of that property, nor decrease its fair and honorable profits, if they write their fingers to the stumps. It has too firm a foundation to be shaken by such puny efforts; and should even Death or Banishment deprive it of the immediate superintendence of its present Manager, it would suffer no interruption; for means have already been taken to secure to it the steady attention of persons all well trained in their departments. Even were it not so, a Paper that can pay at the rate of 1,200 Rupees a Month for an Editor, with proportionally liberal allowances to all the Assistants employed, and which combines as much comfort as profit to all engaged on its details, would not be likely to go a begging for a Deputy, in case of emergency, as the BULL has lately done. But, fortunately, all these contingencies are provided for; and whatever may be the fate of the Editor of the JOURNAL, personally

considered, his Paper is to all intents and purposes the Paper of the Public; and as long as any Laws exist in India for the protection of property, so long it will continue, we trust, to pay handsomely all who are connected with it.

If we were disposed to retaliate upon these Speculators on our pecuniary concerns, we might reveal a tale which would shew that the Proprietors of the BULL have far less reason to be satisfied with the past, and still less reason to be pleased with the anticipations of the future;—but though they may permit their Correspondents and Acting Editor to insert attempts to undermine the pecuniary credit of the JOURNAL, we have too high a sense of propriety and dignity to meddle with theirs. We have reason to believe that the numerous Share holders already on our List, are fully satisfied with the return they are likely to have for their capital; and such as are not, have an option (which none but a good and flourishing Concern could give) of withdrawing their Principal with Interest at the close of the present year. Before that period, we expect to see the remaining Shares all taken up: and then, we have no doubt that the greatest pain that could be given to the BULL Party, high and low, would be to learn that the Profits of the JOURNAL increased progressively, and that Shares were at a premium soon after the whole number were disposed of. We leave them this pleasing vision to dwell on: and return again to the pursuit of higher objects than ever appear to engage their attention, and from which we ought not perhaps to suffer any thing so low and contemptible again to withdraw us.

Discovery of the Interior of Africa.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

As a Constant Reader of your JOURNAL, and being convinced that, by your able and zealous advocacy of the principles of Civil and Religious Liberty, you effectually promote the cause of Truth and Piety, it affords me much pleasure to be able to communicate to you an Extract from an English Periodical Publication, pointing out a prospect of a way being opened for the Discovery of the Interior of Africa, which I conceive cannot but be highly interesting both to the Geographer and the Philanthropist.

If you give to this Extract a place in your JOURNAL, I will communicate to you also Copies of the Letters of the two African Monarchs, Almamy and Dhaa, which are mentioned therein, and an account of the grand Palaver, held in Sierra Leone, between the Members of the English Government and the Chiefs of the Foulah nation.

I should with great pleasure send you the Numbers of the Missionary Register, in which these particulars are contained, if I had a copy of my own: the copy which I have at present, has been lent to me by a friend.

Believe me, Dear Sir, your's sincerely,

Circular Road, Oct. 2, 1822.

D. S. ———.

SURVEY OF THE PROTESTANT MISSIONARY STATIONS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD IN THEIR GEOGRAPHICAL ORDER.—WESTERN AFRICA.

Missionary Register, January 1822.

The attention of enterprising men is now drawn so strongly, on various grounds, to the Continent of Africa, that there is every reasonable hope of rapid advance in the discovery of its unknown interior. The progress of Colonization both on its western and southern coasts, offers points of support to those who push forward their researches, for purposes either of commerce or of beneficence: while the expedition, about to be undertaken under the sanction of Government in the northern parts of the Continent, will contribute to enlarge our knowledge of it in that quarter; and the intercourse opening with Abyssinia will ultimately give access to it on its eastern side.

It may be noticed with great satisfaction, that a spirit of discovery and commercial enterprise is awakened among the Colonists of Sierra

Leone. For the last twelve months, a series of intelligent papers has appeared in the Gazette of that Colony, in which much light is thrown on the Geography of the western part of the Continent, and various reasons are alleged, for attempting an intercourse with the Interior, from that Colony, by way of Teembo and Tombuctoo.

The growing strength and character of the Colony have now an influence far inland. This is sufficiently attested by two official Documents in Arabic, translations of which have appeared in the Sierra Leone Gazette. One of these Documents was addressed to the Governor, by Almamy, of Teembo, a Mahomedan, and King of the large country of Foulah Jallon, inhabited by the Foulahs; entreating, in his own name and in that of the subordinate Foulah Chiefs, the interference of the Governor for the restoration of peace between two Chiefs of the Mandingo country, whose quarrels interrupted the route from Teembo to Sierra Leone. The other Document alluded to was a circular letter from a Heathen Prince, still further distant—Dhaa, King of Bambarra, residing at Sego, a town of 30,000 inhabitants, on the Niger, and said to be the most powerful monarch of the Interior: this Letter was addressed to the Kings and Chiefs of the West, on occasion of King Dhaa's sending a Messenger to the Governor of Sierra Leone, requesting a safe conduct for him to the British Settlement, and urging them to grant protection to all travellers.

The Letter of Almamy Teembo, led to a mission from the Colony to the Chief, Mr. O'Beirne, Assistant Staff Surgeon, offered his services for this purpose, to the Acting Governor, Captain Grant. He reached his destination on the 11th of March, and was received with the utmost cordiality. A grand Palaver was held; in which it was determined, without a dissentient voice, to embrace the opportunity then presented of forming a regular commercial intercourse with the Colony, by way of Port Loko, at the head of the Sierra Leone River and about 200 miles from Teembo. Mr. O'Beirne reached the Colony, on his return, on the 18th of April, accompanied by a number of Chiefs and Traders; among these was Omarroo Kroo, nephew of Almamy, charged by his uncle with the completion of the arrangements for a regular intercourse with Teembo. On the 25th of April a grand Palaver took place at Government House, at which about one hundred Natives from the Interior, including twenty Chiefs, were present, and which ended to the satisfaction of all parties. The Chiefs and Traders set out on their return, on the 6th of May, highly gratified by their reception; and it was afterwards ascertained that they had diffused such general satisfaction, that it was only necessary for travellers to say that they were going to or returning from Sierra Leone, to ensure a free path and hospitable entertainment.

By a providential concurrence circumstances, Mr O'Beirne met, at Teembo, with Setafa, the King of Bambarra's Messenger, on his journey to the Colony. He had with him three men of the late Royal-African Corps, who accompanied from the Colony Assistant Staff Surgeon Dockard, when he proceeded with the expedition under Major Grey, and were inadvertently left behind when that Gentleman quitted Bammakoo on the Niger. The Circular Letter of King Dhaa, before mentioned, speaks highly of the conduct of Mr Dockard, while in the Kingdom of Bambarra, where he was long detained by a war, which the neighbouring Mahomedan Tribes were carrying on against Dhaa, because he refused to submit to their Prophet. Setafa was the bearer of presents and a Letter to the Governor. After a short stay in the Colony, he left it on the 12th of July, for Foulah Jallon, to reside there during the rains; promising to return after their termination, with a view to accompany Lient Laing, Adjutant of the Second West India Regiment, who had volunteered his services to proceed with Setafa to the kingdom of Bambarra, and thence to Tombuctoo, if circumstances should favour the enterprise.

On the important view of the Colony to which we have adverted, we quote the following observations from the Sierra-Leone Gazette:—

"The friendly intercourse which the establishment of this Colony has brought about with the surrounding nations, and with those also of the Interior, will ensure the safety of a traveller for many hundred miles from the coast, so that an individual, starting with such great advantages, may be supposed merely to commence his travels, when he departs from Sego to explore more distant countries in the Interior.

"The honourable and prudent line of conduct observed by Assistant Staff Surgeon Dockard, in the countries through which he passed to and from Sego, and during his long residence on the banks of the Niger, has materially contributed to facilitate the future attempts and exertions of enterprising adventures in the cause of African Discovery, and has, likewise, inspired the Natives of these distant countries with that confidence and good-will toward us, which now lead them, day after day to visit our Settlements, and to cement more firmly the growing attachment to ourselves, to our lawful commerce, and to our noble institutions.

"The mission which was so successfully performed by Assistant Staff Surgeon O'Beirne, to Almamy, King of the Foulah nation, has promoted, in a very eminent degree, the leading objects which the Local Government has so long struggled to obtain.

"Independently of the Commercial advantages, which daily flow from the friendly intercourse established by the wise and correct proceedings of these Gentlemen, we have reason to expect, from their talents and attainments, communications of the highest interest.

"It was a just reproach to this Colony, for a long period, that no one ventured forward in the cause of African Discovery, nor attempted, by personal exertion, to extend and enlarge our commercial intercourse with the Interior. That reproach is now happily removed."

From the same Paper, we extract some remarks on the conclusions which may be drawn from the Letter of the King of Bambrra:—

"The reasonings by which we supported our preference of the route of Sierra Leone and Teembo above all others for penetrating into the Interior of Africa, however convincing they might have been to ourselves, and however apparently unanswerable by others, would probably be, in great measure, attributed to partiality for this Colony, but when a Prince in the interior of Africa, altogether unaware of Mr. O'Beirne's mission, despatches a similar mission at the same moment for the same object, so that both meet at a midway station, each anticipating the other, it is surely impossible not to be struck with the coincidence.

"This calculation must be equally free from partiality and from speculative refinement suggested by obvious interest, and guided by plain facts: consequently, no further question can be made of the superior advantages of a communication from Sierra Leone to the Niger through Teembo, in comparison with any other route; whether we regard the interests of the Natives, or the objects of Europeans in establishing and cultivating a connection with them. In future, therefore, the sole care will be, to make the best use of the line of intercourse thus providentially opened.

With this favourable prospect of increasing intercourse between Britain and Africa, we rejoice to see that the present and future possessions of His Majesty, on the whole line of the Western Coast of this Continent, for forty degrees of latitude, from the twentieth degree North to the twentieth degree South, are brought under one general superintendence and direction. An Act, to this effect, received the Royal Assent on the 7th of May. By this Act, the African Company is abolished, and all the possessions of the Crown within the limits abovementioned; approaching on the South, the Colony of the Cape; and, on the North, the Empire of Morocco are annexed to the Colony of Sierra Leone, and made subject to the administration established there. Not only will our knowledge of Africa and our intercourse with its interior be greatly assisted, by the uniformity of administration and the increase of power, which will result from this measure; but the progress of that continued pest of Africa, the trade in Human Beings, will be thereby more effectually checked, and the view itself more quickly destroyed.

For we regret to state, that this shameful traffic has of late been carried on, on this coast, with augmented efforts and still aggravated ferocity. Our extracts from the fifth Report of the African Institution (see pp. 275—279 and 282—285 of the last volume) will have put our Readers in possession of most affecting details.

To these we shall here add an extract of a Report to the Lords of the Admiralty, by Sir George Collier, dated September 16, 1820, and printed by order of the House of Commons.

"My public Letters, reciting a variety of atrocious facts, will, I trust, have satisfied their Lordships, that this more than ever cruelly conducted Slave Trade is, contrary to their anxious expectations, far from being on the decline."

After exempting our own country from all share in this Trade, and stating the circumstances in which it stands, in reference to America, Spain, Holland, and Portugal, Sir George adds the following dreadful statement respecting a Power, which we had hoped would have been taught by her own singular calamities and mercies to dread the renewal of that retribution which the cry of the blood of murdered brethren had already contributed to call down upon her.

"But France—it is with the deepest regret that I mention it—has countenanced and encouraged the Slave Trade, almost beyond estimation or belief. Under pretence of supplying her own Colonies and furnishing the means only required for their cultivation, she has her Flag protected: and British cruisers can only retire, when they shall see her ensign; for search being forbidden, power and force become unavailing.

"Under this security, France is ingrossing nearly the whole of the Slave Trade; and she has extended this traffic beyond what can be supposed but by one only who has witnessed it. In truth, France now supplies the Foreign colonies, north of the line, with Africans. I exaggerate nothing in saying that thirty vessels, bearing the colours of France, have nearly at the same time and within two or three degrees of distance, been employed Slaving, without my daring to offer interruption, but at considerable risk: yet I was induced, under some circumstances, to detain vessels bearing the French Flag in the hope of checking the bold and frequent outrages committed by the French on our own coast. I will

add, that, in the last twelve months, not less than sixty thousand Africans have been forced from their country, principally under the colour of France."

Who can calculate the aggregate of human suffering undergone by these Sixty Thousand Victims; first in being driven like beasts from the Interior, and then in encountering the horrors of the middle passage!

Notwithstanding the evils we have deplored, opportunities for exertion are multiplying within this first portion of the Heathen World which we visit in our survey. Wherever British power and influence are sufficiently felt to repress the schemes of the wicked, these opportunities present themselves. In the Gambia, throughout the colony of Sierra Leone, in the Sherbro under the respectable family of the Caulkers, and in some places farther southward, the American Colonization Society has secured land in the Bassa Country; but sickness and death have still retarded its exertions. The Island of Fernando Po, in the north-east part of the Gulf of Guinea, may hereafter become a very important station, both for the suppression of the Slave Trade, and for the propagation of the Gospel on the opposite shores. Some account is given of this Island, in reference to the extension of Christianity, in the Second Appendix to the Twenty-first Report of the Church Missionary Society; and the great advantages which Britain might derive from the possession of it in the destruction of the Slave Trade, are fully stated in the Papers printed on this subject, last year, by order of the House of Commons.

Selections.

Hyderabad.—A serious commotion has taken place in the vicinity of Hyderabad. The following is an Extract from a private Letter, dated Hyderabad 23rd September, 1822.

"There has been a terrible disturbance in the neighbourhood of this City. The Pathan population of Chincul Goorah, a suburb, murdered a Hafiz, in consequence of some disputed point of faith, and the whole armed population of the City to the number of 50,000 turned out to take revenge. The inhabitants of Chincul Goorah to the number of 1,500 armed to a man and even their children stood their ground, sallied out took to guns and a standard and they stood at bay.—Some hundreds of Juwan-murds have been cut up, and the plain was strewn with strapping carcasses disfigured by ghastly wounds.—The Bolaurum troops on the day following the fight drew up on the height commanding the village to preserve the peace, and yes erday, without firing a shot, the matter came to an amicable adjustment under the excellent arrangement of Mr. Metcalfe. The part the Bolaurum troops have taken is very gratifying—no violence has been used—we have stood neutral, and the Pathans have quietly withdrawn from the Nizam's territories under British guarantee."—*Madras Gazette*.

Pertie Paul Sing.—By a letter received from our Correspondent at Benares by yesterday's Diak, we learn, that Colonel Clarke's Detachment was in Camp at Muchly Shabur on the 7th instant, and that Pertie Paul Sing was supposed to have fled into the Oude Territory with scarcely a follower. Shumker Sing a hired Robber in the Service of Pertie Paul had returned into the Company's Territory from a Dakoity (in Border language, a raid) in Oude and taken up his residence in a thick Jungle about 20 coss from the Colonel's Camp. It was expected that Colonel Clarke would endeavour to surprize Shumker's Band which is composed of something less than one hundred wretches who have been guilty of every species of Rapine and Murder.—*Hukara*.

CALCUTTA BAZAR RATES, OCTOBER 18, 1822.

	BUY....	SELL
Remittable Loans,	Rs. 20 0	19 8
Unremittable ditto,	12 12	12 4
Bills of Exchange on the Court of Directors, for } 12 Months, dated 31st of December 1821, }	28 0	27 0
Ditto, for 12 Months, dated 30th of June 1822,	26 0	25 0
Ditto, for 18 Months, dated 30th of April,	23 8	22 8
Bank Shares,	4600 0	4500 0
Spanish Dollars, per 100,	206 0	205 8
Notes of Good Houses, for 6 Months, bearing Interest, at 6 per cent.		
Government Bills, Discount,		at 3 8 per cent.
Loans upon Deposit of Comy's Paper, for 1 to 3 months, at 4 per cent.		

PRICE OF BULLION.

Spanish Dollars,	Sicca Rupees	205 0	a	205 12	per 100
Dubloons,		30 8	a	31 8	each
Joes, or Pezas,		17 8	a	17 12	each
Dutch Ducats,		4 4	a	4 12	each
Louis D'Ors,		8 4	a	8 6	each
Silver 5 Franc pieces,		190 4	a	190 5	per 100
Star Pagodas,		3 6 1/2	a	3 7 6	each
Sovereigns,		9 8	a	10 0	
Bank of England Notes,		9 8	a	10 6	

—670—

Distress in Ireland.

We have great pleasure in being able to submit the following Documents, Proceedings, and additional List of Subscribers, to this benevolent purpose of Relieving the Distressed Irish.

TO THE COMMITTEE.

GENTLEMEN,

As I was not personally acquainted with any of the Roman Catholic Clergy, I wrote to Mr. Barretto, begging that he might obtain through his meditation the benefit of a Charity Sermon at the Chapel of Nossa Senhora de Rosario in aid of our subscriptions.

I have now the pleasure to inform you of his having applied to Fre Manoel de Santa Thereza, Commissary and Prelate of the Augustinian Order and Vicar of the Chapel, and that he humanely complied with the wish which Mr. Barretto so kindly communicated.

Sunday sen'night the 27th instant, has been appointed for the Sermon, at Nossa Senhora de Rozario's Chapel.—I trust we shall by such charitable means materially increase the Fund which is accumulating by the efforts of this community for the relief of the Suffering Irish.

I have the honor to remain, Gentlemen,

Your most faithful and obedient Servant,

Wednesday, Oct. 16, 1822.

(Signed) F. MACNAGHTEN

The following Resolutions were agreed to by the Committee in consequence of the foregoing communications :

Resolved that Mr. Barretto be requested to offer our most cordial thanks to Fre Manoel da Santa Thereza for his humane compliance with the request which we made in behalf of the Suffering Irish, and to assure him that we gratefully acknowledge his goodness in co-operating with us towards the relief of our distressed and helpless fellow creatures.

The Treasurer having submitted a Correspondence between him and the Rev. D. Corrie. Resolved that the thanks of the Committee be offered to the Revd. Mr. Corrie for his humane intention to preach a Charity Sermon in the forenoon of Sunday, the 3d proximo, at the Cathedral, in aid of the Subscriptions for the relief of the Distressed Suffering Irish.

TOWN-HALL, CALCUTTA, OCTOBER 19, 1822.

Proceedings of the Committee this-day assembled.

PRESENT.

THE HON'BLE SIR FRANCIS MACNAGHTEN, CHAIRMAN.

DAVID CLARK, Esq.

JOHN O'BRIEN TANDY, Esq.

BENJAMIN FERGUSSON, Esq.

B. ROBERTS, Esq.

WILLIAM MACNAGHTEN, Esq.

CHARLES BLANEY, Esq.

J. W. HOGG, Esq.

1st—Resolved, that the thanks of the Committee be given to the Subscribers who have liberally contributed 7,936—8 since our last Meeting of the 12th Instant.

2d—Resolved, that having seen it notified in the Public Prints for several days past that the Rev. James Hill proposes to preach a Charity Sermon at the Union Chapel on Sunday evening next at half past 7 o'clock, and afterward to have a collection made in behalf of the suffering poor in Ireland. We do publicly acknowledge our obligations to the Rev. Mr. Hill, and declare that we are highly gratified by having such a co-adjutor in the cause of humanity.

3rd—Resolved, that the sum already realised, amounting to about 50,000 Rupees be immediately invested in Government Bills on the Court of Directors on the most favourable terms, and remitted forthwith by the Ship ADRIAN to the Banking House of Coutts and Co.

4th—Resolved, that it being of the utmost consequence to the poor Irish, after a dreary winter of privations and disease, to have the Indian contributions available as early as practicable in the ensuing spring, for the purchase of food for their immediate wants, and if possible to supply them with seed so as to prevent a recurrence of famine from a want of the means of cultivating their Potatoe fields. Subscribers are earnestly entreated to pay in their contributions without delay.

5th—Proposed Drafts of Letters to be addressed to Messrs. Coutts and Co. Bankers, and to Thomas Wilson, Esq. and others of the Committee in London for the Relief of the distressed Irish, having been read by the Chairman,

Resolved, that the same are approved of, and as the Drafts of the Letter to accompany the Remittance to Coutts and Co. explains the views of our Committee, and shows our observance of the sentiments unanimously expressed at the General Meeting convened on the 2d instant. Resolved further, that it be published for the information of the Subscribers at large.

6th—The Meeting is adjourned to Friday next the 25th inst. at 9 o'clock at the Town Hall.

LETTER TO MESSRS. COUTTS AND CO.

Bankers, Strand, London.

SIRS,

In the name of the Committee for the Subscribers at this Presidency and its Dependencies, towards the Relief of the distressed and Suffering Irish, I enclose and request you may place it in your Bank to the Credit of the Committee of Subscribers, for the same purpose, which I observe were convened for the first time at the City of London Tavern on the 7th of May last. That Committee will of course authorise some person to draw the money as it may be required from your Bank.

Our object is to add to the collections they have made (as they express it) "for the immediate assistance of the extreme temporal distress of several provinces or districts of Ireland."

In the name of our Committee, I have written to the London Tavern Committee upon this subject.

Further remittances shall be made, as the Subscriptions are realized.

I am, Sirs, your obedient humble Servant,

(Signed) F. MACNAGHTEN, *Chairman of the*

Calcutta, Oct. 19, 1822.

Calcutta Committee.

ADDITIONAL SUBSCRIBERS.

Names.	Sums.	Names.	Sums.
Lieut. Maddon, Artillery,	30	Ensign Buncombe,	10
Master Conductor Watson, Artillery,	20	Captain Crooke,	32
Mrs. Tankard,	2	Ensign Nelson,	16
J. Draper,	50	Ensign Seevis,	10
V. Rees,	10	Ensign Hogg,	25
G. W. Curwon,	50	Lieut. McFarquhar, ...	32
C. Jones,	10	Captain Noton,	16
William Dubau,	16	G. J. Morris,	100
L. R. Bourke,	50	Three Beerboom Friends, ..	60
R. K. Mackenzie,	50	Messrs. Bonnafe and Co. ..	200
John Fendall,	500	P. Coulon,	32
Jas. McNabb,	150	T. H. Lavé,	32
Ensign Marshall,	25	John Forsyth,	100
Lieut. Thomas,	20	T. Wyatt,	101
Dr. Hickman,	16	T. S. Biscoe,	50
Lieut. Grigg,	16	W. E. Earle,	100
Serjeant Colclough,	10	J. Ross,	15
Serjeant Daunt,	20		
Serjeant Cocker,	20	Total,	2,081
Major Hampton,	50		
Lieut. Hoare,	25	Sum already advertised ..	58,438
Serjeant Hogan,	10		
		Grand Total, ..	55,519

Catholic Charity School.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Journal.

The mention of the above Institution has been in my opinion improperly brought before the public; for a more effectual way was, and is open, to remedy any real complaint; namely, a representation to the proper persons, who certainly would take cognizance of it, and this observation applies also to all that has for some time past appeared in the public prints, relative to various departments of the Catholic Church of Calcutta, as the Choir, &c. &c. which I believe you were at last tired of publishing. What, I would ask, has resulted from all that has been written, but the ridicule of the public? Every sensible Catholic must feel it, and every just one will deplore the meddling malice of those who can publicly assert *hearsay falsehoods*. Of the latter description are the charges made by the writer calling himself A LOVER OF EQUITY; for I affirm that he has never once visited the School, or made enquiry of those who could give him real information on the subject. If he is truly what he professes, he will call there, and judge from fact of the good that has been done; he will inspect the Books, and see that not a day has been lost since its establishment; he will examine the objects of the Charity, and find that the number at first admitted, has been nearly trebled, while many who have benefited by it are now earning an honest living, and he will be shewn that not pedantic learning, but essential and useful spiritual and temporal knowledge, is best fitted for a Charity School, and there carefully taught, and that not the parade of a public examination once a year, but the daily scrutiny of the well wishers of the Charity is courted. All this, and much more has been done by the exertions, and constant attendance of the Superintendent alone, who has often been left without assistance, not for hours, but for weeks together.

Let the writer therefore satisfy himself of the above in the easy way that is open to him, as well as to all others, before he gives loose to a slanderous pen; and if he has the candour of a man and a Christian, he will confess his error.

As to the motives which induced the planning of the institution, the writer in the same uncharitable spirit has attributed them to self-interest. He must, however, allow the planner the merit of having been the means of founding the Charity by his earnest solicitations. But let me ask, what interest had the same person in planning an application to Government, by which an allowance was granted to one of the Priests of the Church, for a duty which gives a zealous minister, full time for the exercise of other important services to the Catholic Community? What interest induced the attempts of the same individual, to instruct three of the Priests in the English language, the acquirement of which would be highly essential to them? with many other circumstances that might be mentioned.

With regard to the persons most capable to superintend the School, the Directors are the best judges; and their characters are too well known to be suspected of any undue motives.

This, Sir, is the first time I ever addressed you, and I hope it will be the last on Church affairs. I would recommend the same feeling to my Catholic brethren, among whom I hope to see in future, less scribbling and more paternal charity. And I am happy to inform them, that an opportunity for the exercise of that heavenly virtue will, I understand, be presented to them on Sunday the 27th instant, when a Charity Sermon will be preached in the Church, and a collection made for the benefit of the distressed Irish; who being their brethren in Christ, will I trust excite a peculiar interest in their breasts. Let us therefore, while we admire, endeavour to emulate the example of that noble minded Personage who has been the great promoter and President of that good work, and let us join our exertions to those of all other denominations of the community, who have here so exactly exemplified the expression of the Poet:—

"For Faith and Hope the World will disagree,
But all Mankind's concern is Charity."

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
October 16, 1822. A CATHOLIC.

Peregrine Pungent and Snake.

To the Editor of the Journal.

SIR,

Some one under the signature of SNAKE in the JOURNAL of the 26th of September having made observations upon my letter on the subject of the "Catholic Peers' Bill," I am induced to make a few extracts from Mr. Canning's speech, contained in the CALCUTTA JOURNAL of the 16th of September, which will plainly shew that Mr. SNAKE could not even have read the Debate he talks so much about; therefore it is no great wonder that he has contrived to state every thing diametrically opposite to the truth; but I suppose "SNAKE" has enjoyed his joke very highly.

I will state first Mr. SNAKE's objections to what I advanced formerly in my letter on the head above alluded to; and subjoin extracts from Mr. Canning's speech, which will at once shew whether I have taken a right view of the subject or not. I now proceed to quote SNAKE's 1st assertion, the TRUTH of which will soon be made manifest. 1st. "The bill would restore eligibility to Scotch Roman Catholic Peers as much as to Irish." I say it would not; and I here produce my authority. "Without repealing the Scottish part of the articles of union which we had adopted, we could not open to the Scotch Catholics the road to admission to the British legislature."—vide CALCUTTA JOURNAL, page 207, 16th September. I will now shew the incorrectness of SNAKE's second objection. 2d. "The bill would be sufficient repeal of any article in the treaty of union with Scotland with which it was incompatible." How could a repeal of an act of Charles the Second affect one passed in the reign of Anne? Let the bill speak for itself.

The Right Honorable Gentleman concluded amidst loud cheering from both sides of the house, by moving for leave to bring in a bill to repeal so much of an act of the 30th of Charles 2nd, as debars Roman Catholic Peers from the exercise of their right to sit and vote in the House of Lords. Mr. SNAKE must nearly have got enough; but his third argument against me remains still to be disproved, which I shall do by another extract from Mr. Canning's speech. 3. "Mr. Canning did not regret that the Catholic Peers were summoned to the Coronation, on the contrary he highly applauded it." Now let us hear Mr. Canning's sentiments from his own mouth.

"It would be better policy to have left them under all their disabilities unnoticed in that day of state, than to bring them forward in the front of the ceremony and splendour of such an occasion, and expose them in the eyes of the world to the humiliation of being supposed to labour under that national disqualification, in addition to their civil exclusion, of being satisfied with the trumpery distinction (for such in comparison it was) of being intrusted with a place in that pageant, while they were deemed unworthy of enjoying the more substantial privileges of their birth and rank."—vide CALCUTTA JOURNAL, page 199, 16th September.

By this it appears that "SNAKE" is a personage very deeply read, particularly in this subject.

Your's very obediently,

PEREGRINE PUNGENT.

Vizagapatam, Oct. 6, 1822.

CURRENT VALUE OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES.

Remittable,.....	19 4 a 19 8
Non-Remittable,.....	12 4 a 12 8

COURSE OF EXCHANGE.

BUY]	CALCUTTA]	[SELL
2 a 2]	On London 6 Months sight, per Sicca Rupees	2 a 2]
	Bombay 30 Days sight, per 100 Bombay Rupees	92
	Madras ditto, 94 a 98 Sa. Rs. per 100 Madras Rupees	*
	Bills on Court of Directors 9 months date, 23 0 a 25 0 pr ct prem.	
	Ditto ditto, 14 ditto,.....	21 8 a 23 0 per cent. do.
	Bank Shares—Premium 43 a 45 per cent.	

Outcast.*To the Editor of the Journal.*

Sir,
You will much oblige me by inserting the following Lines
in your Paper.

Your's, &c.

THE OUTCAST.

How the tempest tears the deep!
How the skies in anguish weep!
Hark how howls the surly tide!
From the tempest haste and hide!
"From the tempest hide—but where
"Hide me from the fiend despair?
"Where's the shed in which to find
"Shelter from the outraged mind?"
Oh! you know not what you say,
From destruction haste away,
The rage of passion may give o'er,
But life once quenched revives no more.
"Cease thee, cease thee! need I live
"When life hath not a hope to give?
"When crushed by anguish all my power
"Is but to curse my natal hour;
"Oh! may ruin strip the plain
"When life dawned on me in vain.
"May tempests blast each shrub and tree
"That in my childhood sheltered me!
"Save thyself! the power is thine
"To bless mankind—a curse is mine
"A curse that quells the throb of fear
"Save thyself—I perish here!"
Art thou fit to rush unbidden
Before the awful bar of heaven,
Whose bosom frantic passion throes,
Whose purpose mercy's self disowns?
Art thou so bold to force that bourn
When conscience cries aloud, return?
Art thou so poor to sink oppress
When reason whispers peace and rest?
"Peace no wretched man can have,
"Rest is only in the grave,
"When poison taints the laboring breath
"Where is medicine but in death?"
Oh, be mindful what I say
From destruction haste away,
Think of father, love, or friend
Doomed to mourn thy wretched end.
"My pity urge not—none there be
"Would shed one sorrowing drop for me;
"Hear me!—let heaven and earth attend
"I have nor father, love, nor friend,
"I who breathed love for all mankind
"One faithful heart could never find,
"And now each proof of life o'erthrown
"In this wide world I stand alone!
"I had a father, dearly loved
"His curse, his cruel curse I proved,
"And while to sooth his race I tried
"Warm from that cruel curse he died!
"I had a friend—he stabbed my heart
"He wronged me in the dearest part,
"Then drew his blade—fate welded mine
"And stamp'd me murderer without crime!
"My, love—oh, never lovelier maid
"Was e'er by beauty's hand arrayed,
"O, never lips so sweetly smiled
"Since the first Adam was beguiled,
"Never had sainted virgin fair

"So innocent, so pure an air
"Each charm we picture as divine
"Was hers—and I believed her mine
"For her my father's curse I bore
"For her my friend I owned no more!
"Oh! judge my suffering—calm and cold
"She left me—had the false one told
"Why thus she parted—had she said
"She was by cruel fate betrayed,
"Had one soft tear unbidden stole
"One look revealed the pitying soul,
"I could have borne this out-cast state
"But cold indifference was my fate!
"Then can I love those scenes to see
"That bloom nor smile nor droop for me?
"No, sterile world! I bid adieu
"To faithless friend, chilled love and you!"

He said—and dashing from the steep
Sought refuge in the yawning deep,
The angry billows formed his grave,
And howling winds a requiem gave!

Ghauts.*To the Editor of the Journal.*

Sir,

Having observed in your Paper of the 5th instant, a few lines on the subject of Ghauts, and as an individual deeply interested, I have little hesitation in stating my opinion that the Board of Customs would feel infinitely obliged to any person who would point out the Ghauts unprotected by a Government Custom House Chowkey or Peons, on that side of Calcutta, for your Correspondent (characteristically signing himself A Busy Body) has carefully avoided mentioning which side of Calcutta; an omission so injurious to the interests of the Service in the Revenue Department, could not have so long escaped the acknowledged vigilance of the Gentleman the head of the Customs. I flatter myself, Sir, you will coincide in opinion with me, that no time can be employed to greater disadvantage than that which has neither the good of ourself or others for its object. Such is the only inference which at present can be drawn from the perusal of the note of A Busy Body; however, should I be mistaken as to the real intentions of your Correspondent, I will be the most forward in expressing my contrition for so hasty a decision on this subject, but not until your Correspondent has given the names of the Ghauts at which such illegal practice is carried on, as in the latter case, I am persuaded the constituted authorities would give the subject due consideration, and the end I had in view in thus troubling you, (namely, the good of the Service) be fully compensated.

I have the honor to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,
Calcutta, Oct. 7, 1822. A SUBSCRIBER.

Birth.

On the 10th instant, Mrs. J. S. JEBB, of a Son.

Deaths.

On the River near Agra, on the 4th instant, Mr. WILLIAM MACKENZIE, Conductor of the Ordnance Commissariat.

On the 15th instant, JULIA ELIZA LLEWELYN, daughter of Mr. J. LLEWELYN, aged 1 year, 6 months and 3 days, after a lingering illness of two months.

BANK OF BENGAL RATES.

Discount on Private Bills... 6 per cent.
Ditto on Government Bills of Exchange... 5 per cent.
Interest on Loans on Deposit... 5 per cent.

HIGH WATER AT CALCUTTA THIS DAY.

	H.	M.
Morning,	6	38
Evening,	7	4